

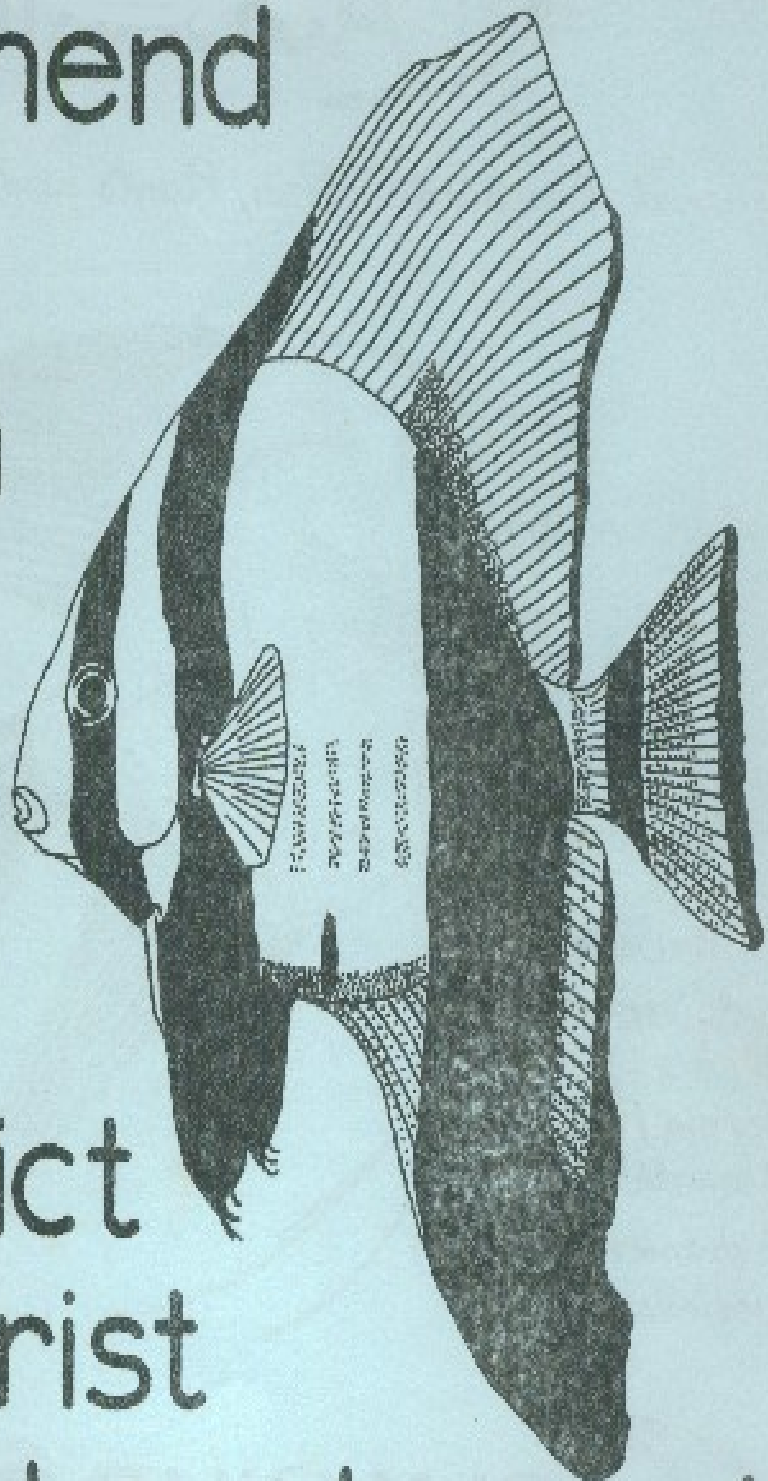
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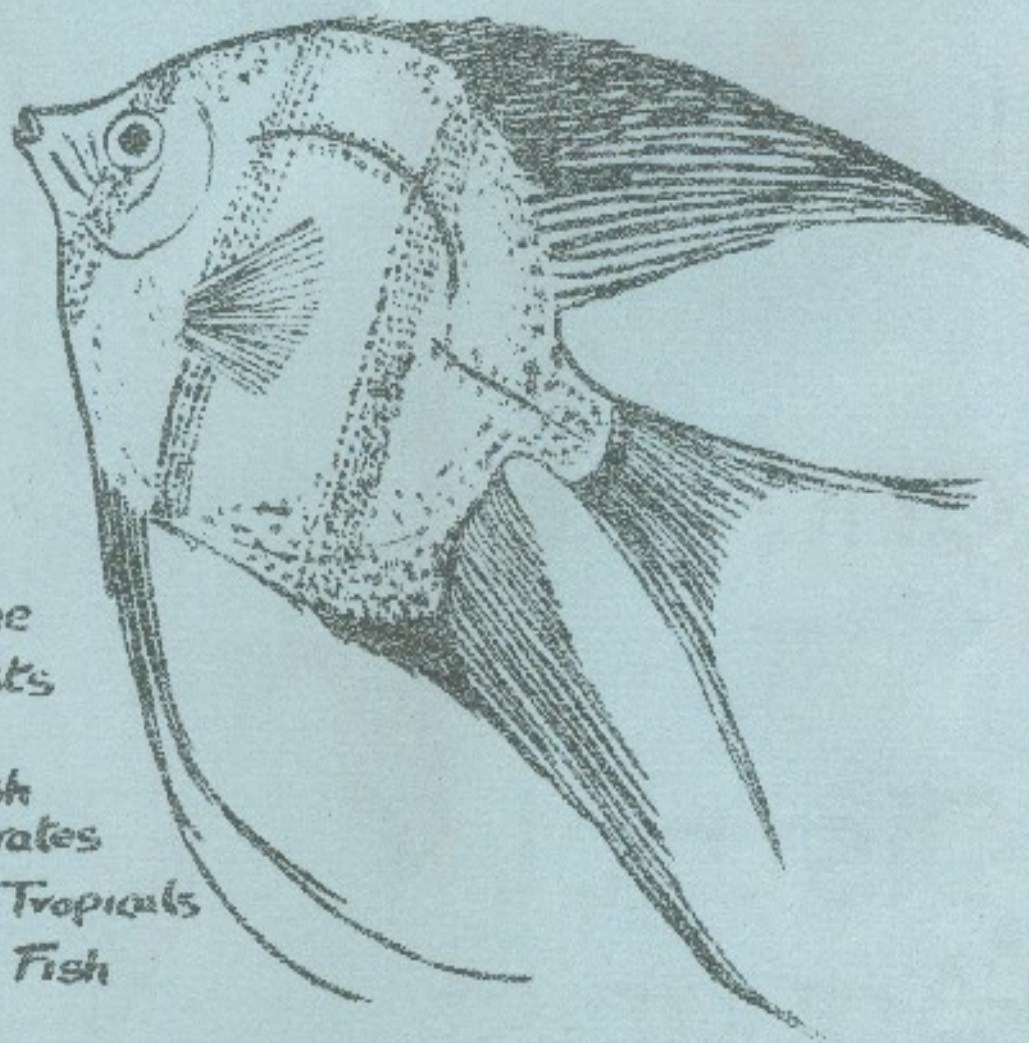
District
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Journal



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SOUTHEND, LEIGH AND DISTRICT AQUARIST SOCIETY
(Founded 1933, or before)

Meetings are held on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of every month, the meeting commences at 8.30 p.m.

Venue :-

ST, ANDREWS HALL,
ELECTRIC AVENUE,
WESTCLIFF-ON-SEA, ESSEX,
(Entrance in South View Drive)

BI-MONTHLY JOURNAL
NO. 79 JANUARY - MARCH 1980

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JIM LONDON (AS ABOVE)

—

—

EDITORIAL

TERRY BLACKMORE. S.L.A.D.A.S

..

It's been a busy last two months for the Society. There have been three committee meetings and four club meetings besides various other activities in which club members have attended. These are mentioned elsewhere.

Articles this month include Part Two of Dave Cheswright's livebearer article and Pat Houston's on Setting up a Marine Aquarium.

Already I am looking for articles for the next magazine. Terry Waller of East London has promised me some, and these have now arrived. I would like to see something from the junior members of the Society though.

The Society receives various journals from other clubs, and these are available from the library. any articles worth leading are usually listed in this magazine under the title of "Shorts".

This edition contains a list of Specialist Societies, for those who wish to join specialist groups. Any further details can be obtained from committee members, many of whom belong to these Societies.

Many of you will be helping with the Open Show. It is hoped that the Show is as successful as in recent years. As usual Raffle and Draw Tickets are available. Silver Cups are being presented to all class winners and the prizes down to fourth place will be wooden plaques as usual, On the whole a good selection of trophies.

One final paragraph from me before you start on the magazine proper. The committee have agreed that the best article this year will earn its writer a five pound cash prize for his or her efforts. So keep the articles coming, I have enough for the next magazine so that will give you plenty of time to prepare your article.

- **-PRESIDENT'S PAGE -**

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- D.M. Cheawright S.L.A.D.A.S.

I would like to extend a welcome to all visitors to the Open Show, and, of course, to thank all Aquarists who have entered their fishes, plants, etc. in the Show - without them there would be no Show. Also, last but not least, thanks are due to the F.B.A.S. Judges who have travelled here today and spent about three hours in pointing every entry. Southend Members, who have worked like madmen all Friday evening (and half the night in some cases) and are still at it all day today will probably get thanked after the Show, but mention must be made of Jim London and Ray Stanford who, between them, have done all the work in preparing for the Show over the last 4 or 5 months.

All the wooden trophies for the first 4 places in each class were made by John Patterson who joined SLADAS only a short time ago and immediately offered to make them, refusing all offers of assistance, financial or otherwise. The stars and centres had to be bought but his work has certainly cut down the expenses of the Show.

March saw the start of the 1980 Show Season. Five of us went to Brighton & Southern A.S. Show on 9th March and three to Croydon A.S. Show on 22nd March. We try to go to a number of other Societies' Shows each year and this, I feel, encourages them to come to ours.

I hear that various Southend Members are building Fish-sheds, including Tony Moles and Ray Stanford; Howard Preston and Terry Blackmore are talking of moving or extending theirs. Eric Byatt has recently moved house and, although he has four children, he has managed to acquire a fish-room for his Killie-fishes. Eric, with Tony Moles and my son, Chris, is holding local Group British Killiefish Association meetings, so any BKA Members should contact him. Chris and I have been converting our garage into a fish-house as the old wooden shed is fast dying - no amount of treatment will stop the wood rotting or the roof sagging - it was converted in 1966 and was of an unknown age then. We finished it at Easter and have been moving tanks over one at a time ever since. I have said before that I think there should be more contact between members and there is nothing better than visiting each other and seeing on the spot what others are doing. Now that more members are breeding fishes the interest in the hobby at Southend has gone up in the last year or so. I intend to invite Members to come and look at my set-up and I hope that others will do the same.

Heating costs are a reason for not finding more members with Sheds or more tanks indoors. It is interesting to note that my new Fish-house, which is 15 x 7 x 7 feet, has been using only 2 gallons of.....

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PRESIDENT'S. PAGE (Continued)

Paraffin per week - a cost of under £2 for about 100 assorted sized tanks. I am going back to Electricity once the old shed is empty but it is obviously going to cost only about half that of the old one, which was 30% smaller. This is because of the Insulation of 2 inches of Polystyrene, double-glazing on half the roof, and the Breeze block construction.

Finally I would like to thank all visitors for coming to the Show and hope that some of you will join SLADAS, We are a very active Society and about 50 members attend each meeting.

CROYDON A.S. OPEN SHOW

D. Cheswright (SLADAS, BASS & SLAG)

This Show was on Saturday, 22nd March, at Whitehorse Manor Boys Club, Croydon. Benching was from 8.30 a.m. until noon. 30 minutes were then allowed to look round before judging started at some time after 12.30 p.m. Chris, Audrey and I left home about 8.45 and we were there by 10.15. Jim London arrived at an unknown time as I did not see him until about 11.30!! Chris and I had 12 entries, covering 8 classes and Jim was in class G (AOS Catfish) and class W(AOS Coldwater). The Hall was spacious and, as there were only about 400 entries, there was plenty of room to bench and look at the entries. Refreshments and various stands were in a separate room; F.B.A.S., British Killiefish Association, Southern Livebearers Aquatic Group and a local trader had stands.

Judging finished at about 4.30 p.m. The three of us did very well, taking 1sts in classes G. W. U, Nb-m and Xo-t; we also had three 2nds, one 3rd and one 4th, a total of 39 points. The winners on points were South-East London A.S. with 76 points. Best in Show was a Kuhli Eel in class L. There was a special class for Reptiles and Amphibia. This was won by a toad. All together this was a good day out - we left at 6.30 and were home by 8.30. The Show clashed with the Hendon Convention which started at 6 p.m. As it would have been impossible to attend both I have no doubt that this clash of dates reduced the number of entries.

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SETTING UP A MARINE AQUARIUM

PAT HOUSTON

(S.L.A.D.A.S.)

To me the sight of tropical marine fish swimming around a well furnished tank is one of the real pleasures of keeping fish.

Unfortunately, it can also be very expensive and heartbreaking if the aspiring aquarist does not take note of some cardinal rules, although even then there are no guarantees for success.

The rules to remember are that patience is required in every step of preparation of the tank and acclimatization of the fish, also a stable environment is of paramount importance.

The basic requirements for setting up a marine tank are the following :

1. A tank made of a non-corrosive medium. All glass tanks are perfect. All metals are toxic to marine life, so make sure any frames are protected from the salt water. The volume should be at least 20 gallons for any certainty of success. The larger the volume the slower any changes will take place. The beginner should limit himself to 1" of fish to every 2 gallons.
2. A good air pump. It must be remembered that marine fish have an oxygen requirement up to 250 times greater than freshwater fish, therefore, it does not pay to skimp on the pump. Also if the pump is to be used in conjunction with an under-gravel filter it must be capable of a good turnover.
3. A filter system. This can either be by mechanical filters, i.e. power filters or box filters, or by biological means with an undergravel filter. I personally use u.g. filters on all three of my tanks and find this highly satisfactory.
4. A reliable heater with either an outside thermostat or heater/ thermostat combined. Marine fish enjoy a temperature range of between 74-76 C and, like every aspect of their environment, this must be kept as stable as possible.
5. Lighting. While this is not necessary for the well-being of your fish, it is aesthetically pleasing. For a 36x12x15 tank a 40W fluorescent tube should be sufficient (if invertebrates are to be kept, the light requirement is higher).
6. A base material. This can be either coral sand (oolite) or a mixture of oolite and gravel. You should allow for a depth of at least 3-4" to cover the u.g. filter.
7. A reliable thermometer, test kits for nitrate and pH.....

(Over)

Next make up your salt water. There are many excellent preparations on the market today. Prepare the water a few days in advance to allow for de-chlorination. Your hydrometer should read between 1.020 to 1.025 at 76 C.

While your mix is getting ready, wash your tank out with clean water, with perhaps a mild solution of salt to cure it. Now place your u.g. filter on the bottom of the tank. It should cover the bottom of the tank completely to avoid the possibility of there being areas in the tank unfiltered with the subsequent build-up of noxious gases. After connecting up all the uplift tubes to the u.g. filter you can add the sand mixture. Now fill up with the water up to about the 2/3rd limit to leave you room to add the coral and decorations-; this will now displace the water up to the top. Now connect all the wires for the heater, pump, lights etc. to the cable, tidy and switch on for 24 hours to check everything is in working condition. The tank must now be matured. This is done by either adding one or two nitrite tolerant fish, such as damsels, to the tank and waiting for the build-up of the necessary bacteria which will eventually convert any waste products into harmless by-products, or by adding one of the preparations on the market which guarantee to 'mature' your tank in 7-14 days. Normally it will be at least 2 months before the tank is ready to take any more occupants. This will be when your nitrite test kit has been showing 5 days of nitrite clear water. Even then do not rush out and add 3 or 4 fish all in one go. Your newly matured system will not be able to cope with the sudden influx of waste products from these fish and you might find you have a surge of noxious gases, i.e. ammonia, which may mean the demise of your fish. This is where patience comes in! It took my first tank, which is 36"x12"x15" about 12 months before I was confident it could deal with all the normal waste products of a number of fish. It now has three occupants, 1 Copperband butterflyfish, 1 Pakistani butterflyfish and 1 juvenile percula clown. Because butterfly and angelfish are among the more sensitive of marine fish it is imperative to keep them in a well aerated, fully matured tank with, preferably, a flourishing cultivation of green algae. I know that, generally speaking, algae is a nuisance in freshwater tanks, in marine tanks it provides useful green stuff for the fish to browse on, as most fish require some form of vegetation in their diet. Although my large 72x24x24 tank has yet to fully mature, as it has a much larger water volume than the other smaller tank, it is therefore much more stable. At present it has 6 occupants, 1 large cream angel (*Holocanthus acanthurus*), 1 blue ribbon eel (*Rhinomuraena amboinensis*), 1 black banded trigger (*Rhinecanthus rectangulus*), 1 domino damsel (*Dascyllus trimaculatus*) and 1 pair of birdmouth wrasse (*Gomphosus coeleus*). This is by no means the limit of this tank, but the enjoyment of buying your fish slowly month by month, perhaps having to wait for weeks before seeing just the fish you want, is to me all part of the real joy of marine fishkeeping.

- **LIVEBEARERS (Continued)**

D.M.Cheswright (S.L.A.D.A.S S.L.A.G & B.A.S.S.)

In the last issue I briefly described the various species of *Xiphophorus* (Swordtails/Platies) available in the U.K. We will now move on to the "Limias". The scientific classification of fishes is subject to continuous changes. Until some years ago there was a genus - LIMIA - and another - MOLLIENESIA. There was also the Guppy, then named LEBISTES reticulata. It was then decided that all these fishes should come under the genus POECILIA and this is where they all are at present, e.g. the Guppy is now *Poecilia reticulata*.

(a) Old names are hard to forget and the word "Limia" is still used as a common name for some species. Probably the most common known is the BLUB LIMIA (*Poecilia melanogaster*). This has been around for many years and is often available in shops. The basic body colour is blue as the name suggests and the males should have yellow on the caudal (tail) fin, although this is becoming rarer to see. They are very easy to keep and breed and are a very active fish. Males are somewhat aggressive to each other and it is advisable to have only one male present. Also the males are very persistent in sexual activities so, if possible, have 3 or 4 females with each male; otherwise there is a tendency for a lone female to become terrified and even sometimes to die, due to the continual chasing by the male. A notable difference in the females, when compared to most other Livebearers is that they have a permanent very dark "gravid" spot colour and this shows up when they are quite young. When pregnant they become much larger but the dark colour remains at all times. This is a very hardy species, easily kept as I have said above, therefore, very suitable for beginners.

(b) I suppose that the next most well-known is the Humpbacked Limia (*Poecilia nigrofasciata*). Many years ago these were very common and often appeared in shops. They are now quite a rarity and prove difficult to keep and to breed. Whereas the other Limias are quite happy at normal temperatures of 70/75F (21/24C) this species seems to prefer about 78/80F (25/26C). This is by no means certain but many Aquarists take this view. Personally I think that water conditions are more likely to be the problem; they seem to prefer old water. In other words they do not like large water changes which seem to be in fashion these days for all species. A small amount, say, 5% can be changed once a month but they do not take to regular changes of larger amounts in my experience. Breeding them is difficult; I am having no success at present, and very few others are. The common name comes from the body shape and the humped appearance increases with age.

LIVEBEARERS(Continued)

Other "Limias" in the U.K. Are :-

(c) *Poecilia vittata*. A nice fish, easily kept and bred. The colouration is a basic silvery/grey background covered in black spots/blotches. There should also be considerable yellow/gold markings but these are often not present nowadays. Anyone breeding these should try to retain that colour by selective breeding. With this colouration it is a magnificent fish. This species is often available in shops.

(d) *Poecilia chica*. This is a brownish coloured fish with bright blue showing on the lower half of the body. When this colour shows it is like the blue on a marine fish such as the blue damsel, sadly however it is not present at all times. There are only about 20 of these in the U.K. and they are proving difficult to breed even though the specimens we obtained in 1978 were, and still are, very strong looking. About 50% of the fry obtained so far have swim-bladder troubles. Fry have been obtained only in batches of about 10 at a time.

(e) *Poecilia dominicensis*. This looks like a "poorman's blue limia" in shape and colour, having much less blue on the body. There is no sign of any other colour except a small reddish mark on the dorsal fin.

(f) *Poecilia perugiae* (was known as *Poecilia versicolor*). This is an example of the name problem. Even now, it is not entirely certain as to the correct name. It is a strong fish and broods of up to 60 plus fry can be obtained. The basic colour is silvery, with black markings on the body. The Male's dorsal fin sometimes shows a pinkish colour which appears to increase with age. They are easy to keep. The only problem with them is that the males do not grow to any reasonable size. Mine are no more than about 1-2 inch although I have seen them slightly larger. Specimens brought in by Howard Preston and Steve Jordan included larger Males but it may be that smallness of males is characteristic of this species. I was told only recently by a fellow-aquarist that he has grown larger males but that they have died when quite young.

(g) *Poecilia parae*. (This used to be *Micropoecilia pectrae*). I received 7 of these late in 1979 from the USA and this was one third of the sender's stock. There were 4 females, 2 males and 1 fry. One pair soon died and I now have 1 male plus 4 females. Only 1 female has dropped fry to date, 2 dead lots plus the latest, about 10, alive. They are, according to the sender and to the books, very difficult to even keep alive for some unknown reason. The sender suggested the addition of salt but I have found that this is not necessary. After a few weeks in the U.K. they seemed to become used to my water and feeding conditions

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- **LIVEBEARERS (Continued)**

and are now very healthy looking. The fry are extremely small when born and could not eat newly-hatched brine shrimp for some days — they must have existed on infusoria in the aquarium. These fish I have kept so far in small tanks, 1 female in each, in order to be able to observe them and hope to obtain fry. A very small amount of water is changed every couple of days in order to keep the tanks fresh. With any difficult species of Livebearer I find that this method is the best - accurate observation is impossible in larger containers. In appearance they are like Guppies, although much smaller and the males have much less colour. Their small size was the reason for first putting them in a Genus of their own and for that original name as above.

Included with the above species, -when they arrived were 2 further fry. These turned out to be Guppies and, unbelievably, proved to be a pair. They seem to be a wild strain but I am still awaiting details of their source from the sender. I obtained fry from the female, some of which are golden Guppies. The pair I have passed on to our Editor who has also had a batch, including some gold.

(h) *Poecilia zonata*. A brownish coloured fish, the only male I have showing a jet-black Dorsal fin. I have had these only for a short time and have not yet bred them.

- (i) *Poecilia vivipara*. This is a brownish/green fish with a black mark in the middle of it's body, surrounded with a gold ring. The gold colour tends to disappear with age. They were very prolific when we acquired them in 1978 from West Germany, producing broods of over 80 fry. They are an example of a fish that was easy to keep and breed and became quite common very quickly. They are now becoming scarce and there is difficulty for some reason in obtaining fry from the females. Some .aquarists have reported the adults wasting away and dying quite quickly.

(ii)

I think that the above covers the "Limia" section of Poecilias in the U.K. at present. (*Poecilia parae* and *Poecilia reticulata* mentioned in this article are not Limias).

TO BE CONTINUED.....

BEGINNERS PAGE

T, BLAGKMORE
(SLADAS & SLAG)

**AN EASY TO BREED EGGLAYER
BRACHYDANIO RERIO (ZEBRA DANIO)**

The Zebra Danio is perhaps the easiest of all the Egg layers to breed. The Zebra easily identifiable by its blue and yellow horizontal stripes; it is one of the hardiest of all aquarium fish, eats most fish foods with relish, and can be kept in a community aquarium.

The method I used to breed these fish is as follows: The male and female were separated for 10 days and fed live foods, Daphnia, White worm etc. (though these are not necessary.) If not available, small amounts of dried food, fed as often as possible. The female is easily identified as she looks somewhat like a female live bearer which is due to drop its young in about a week's time. (This is, of course, if she is full of aggs). Prepare the breeding tank at the same time as the fish are separated- I used 50% water from the Zebra tank and 50% fresh tap water at a temperature of 75 degrees F. A 12"x 10"x 10" tank should suffice. Cover the inside base of the tank with glass marbles or small stones of similar size. This is to prevent the fish from eating the eggs once laid.

After ten days the fish can be released into the breeding tank. (I do this as late as possible at night). I always release the female first and give her time to settle. Then I release the male. Spawning usually takes place at dawn, hence the reason for releasing the fish late in the day. At the longest the parent fish should be removed on the second morning. As any eggs laid the first day should be almost ready to hatch, up to 1,000 non adhesive eggs can be 'laid.

The parents can be separated again, ready to be spawned about 14 days later. The fry start to hatch in 36 hours, but should not be fed for the first 24 hours, or until they are free swimming. When newly hatched, the fry can be seen resting on the stones (Marbles) and sides of the tank like slivers of glass. When free swimming, finely ground dry food can be fed for two or three days, then newly hatched brine shrimp can be fed. Mine you, these fish

(Continued over)

will still survive on dried food, but will not grow as fast.

The Leopard Danio (*B.frankei*) is just as easy to breed (as are the other species of Danio). The Leopard Danio is often thought to be a cross breed Danio or a Sport of some kind, as no location is listed against this fish, and was first seen in a tank in Russia, by Hans Joachim Franke, whom it is named after. ... •••'•

P.S. My thanks to Pink Floyd, whose music I used as back ground, to help me think straighter than usual, while writing this article.

SHORTS

Just arrived are the latest three editions of Aquaforum, The Journal of the **Eastern Cape Aquarist Society of South Africa**. There are some very good articles in this well prepared magazine. Mostly borrowed from other mags, but still of great interest, especially one on livebearers, which can be read in conjunction with Dave Cheswright's article, which is currently the backbone of our own mag. I'll give details of any other Journals as they are received.

Specialist Societies continued from page 14.

If any club members belong to any of these or any others not listed, would they please let me know, as I would like to produce a list of members for each Society. This will enable prospective and established members to get in touch with each other.

The larger the number of S.L.A.D.A.S. members belonging to Specialist Societies, also helps to promote our own Society as well as their Specialist Society.

Please write your name, address and Society on paper and pass to me (Terry Blackmore) or any committee member.

ACTIVITIES OF-SOCIETY MEMBERS

Dave Cheswright is by far our most active member. Dave recently gave a talk' and slide show to the Hockley Endeavour Club for the Disabled. The talk was on the basics of fish keeping, and went down rather well. Especially as most of the members are senior citizens, and get very fidgety if bored.

As a helper and member of the Disabled Club myself, I would like to thank Dave for his time and efforts.

Dave Ches., Karen Turner and myself attended the first of this year's Southern Livebearer Aquarist Groups (S.L.A.G.) meetings at Reading. A talk on viviparous births in Livebearers by John Dawes of Bath University was very illuminating. Having arrived back at 2 in the morning, Dave was off again next morning, along with Tony Moles, to the Brighton Show. No results have been received yet, but all points scored at Open Shows still count, as far as I know, in the Rose Bowl Score for Highest Points by a member!

The following weekend, 15th March, Dave Ches. and myself attended the British Aquarists Study Society (B.A.S.S.) 1st Spring meeting where John Hancock gave a very good account of his activities on The Chagos Archipelago, along with some very good slides taken in situ. The Meeting held at the London Zoo, also included a quick look around the Zoo during the break and an invitation to look behind the scenes at the Zoo Aquarium afterwards.

The 22nd March was the Croydon Show, and the Hendon Convention. Several members were intending to visit these but I have no idea at the time of writing if they did.

If any members are or have taken part in any, or will be visiting Shows, let me know. It helps to fill space. Also it may be of interest to other members who would like to go to these meetings.

Unknown to me, (T.Blackmore) Jim London and Ray Sandford were also at Brighton. Not until Ray gave me a write up on the Show did I know. This article is now lined up for the next mag.

SPECIALIST SOCIETIES

These Societies are for those who are interested in one particular group of fishes.

LIVEBEARERS

Southern Livebearers Aquatic Group

Contact: Ray Townsend, 18 Barfield Road, Thatcham, Berks.

Newcastle Guppy & Livebearers Society

Contact: J.Renton, 146, Chillingham Road, Heaton, Newcastle upon Tyne.

KILLIFISH

British -Killifish Association

Contact: W.D.Joyce, 2, College Down, Alresford, Hants.

CHARACINS

Characin Study Society

Contact: Mr.M.West, 76, Lingfield Avenue, Kingston on Thames, Surrey.

CATFISH ;

Catfish Association of Great Britain

Contact: D.D.Sands, 12a, Moorland Road, Boxmoor, Hemel Hempstead, Herts..

..!

CICHLIDS

British Cichlid Association

Contact: I.Sellick, Zoology Dept., Bristol University, Woodland Road, Bristol BS8

KOI

British Koi Keepers Society

Contact: Mrs.P.Goode, 32, Marlborough Avenue, Bromsgrove, Woracetershire.

MARINES

British Marine Association

Contact: J.Vickery, 26, Rosalind Avenue, Woodsetton, Dudley West Midlands.

GOLDFISH :

Goldfish Society of Great Britain

Contact: Mr.A.Low, 4, Elgin Crescent, Caterham, Surrey.

GUPPIES

Fancy Guppy Association (South London section)

Contact: S.Croft, 85 Planks Lane, Wombourne, Staffs.

CLUB REPORT -

5th February 1980

Dave Cheswright spoke about Characins, so I'm told. I was elsewhere judging fish, so I can't remember off hand. 52 members attended this meeting.

TABLE SHOW

Class O Male Guppies		4 Entries	Judge T.Blackmore	
SENIOR				
1	R.Davis	Male Guppy	72	points
2	R.Crow	Male Guppy	70	"
3	R.Crow	Male Guppy	68.	"
4	A.Swinscoe	Male Guppy	67	"

JUNIOR NO ENTRIES

MEMBERS CHALLENGE '

Results after 4th showing

Judge D. Durrant

RAFFLE RESULTS

1	Dave Cheswright	Filter
2	Ron Davis	Glasses
3	Richard Lodge	Spoons
4	Tony Moles	Black Water Cure
5	Jim London	Stapler

19th February'

The F.B.A.S. were unable to find a copy of their Killifish Tape & Slide Show, and sent a copy on one on British Native fishes by Bob Essen.
;.

TABLE SHOW

Class Ez A..O.S. Labyrinths (SENIOR)

		5 Entries	Judge T.Blackmore	
1	Dave Burges	Moonlight Gourami	63	points
2	Dave Burges	Pearl Gourami	60	"
3	R. Davis	Pearl Gourami	56½	"
4	R. Davis	Pearl Gourami	56	"

Junior

		6 Entries	Judge D.Cheswright	
1	D.Rashbrook	Pearl Gourami	75	points
2	S . Boore	Golden gourami	71	points
3	R.Pearman .	Golden gourami	69	points
4	S . Boore	Pearl Gourami	68	points

Ea. Siamese fighters

SENIOR	2 Entries	Judge	T.Blackmore
1	R.Davis	Betta Splendens Male	58 Points
2	J.Wimbush	Betta Splendens Male	55 points

JUNIOR :NO ENTRIES

RAFFLE RESULTS

1	D.Burges	Filter
2	J.Wood	Cludo
3	A.Swinscue	Fish
4	S.Byatt	Bio Cure
5	T.Moles	Motor Oil
6	J.Ardin	Basket

4th March

The night started with Killifish slides, shown by Eric Byatt. These were held over from the meeting before. The show planned wasn't available, and we ran out of time. After the slides the club split into 3 groups and discussed various aspects of the Club and details to help beginners. Quite an interesting evening.

TABLE SHOW

Class C – Characins	SENIOR	12 Entries	Judge T.Waller
1	T.Moles	Blind Cave Fish	71 points
2	R.Davis	Silver Tetra	68½ points
3	D.Burges	Black Widow	67 points
4	L.Somner	Rainbow Tetra	66½ points

	JUNIOR	3 Entries	judge T. Waller
1	P.Rashbrook	Black Widow	
2	S.Boore	Rosy Tetra	
3	S.Boore	Rosy Tetra	

Class M - A.O.S. Egglayers	SENIOR	8 entries	Judge T.Waller
1	Mrs.Perry	Ruby Shark	68½ points
2	P.Boore	Red Fin Shark	65 points
3	Mrs.Perry	Sucking Loach	64½ points
4	R.Davis	Indian Hatchet	63½ points

JUNIOR		2 entries	Judge T. Waller
1	R.Pearman	Sucking loach	

RAFFLE RESULTS

1	D. HOLLIDAY	GLASSES
2	T.COOPER	SHOE BRUSHES
3	D.BURGES	NET
4	J.LONDON	POND PRIDE

18th March

The Club had been given some Show Tanks by Thurrock Aquarist Society and also received Fish Food from several manufacturers. These were auctioned for Club Punds, after which a talk on Labyrinths was due. I must try and look into the main Hall when I am judging, as often I'm unaware of exactly as to what went on at some of the meetings. It is O.K. when the table shows are in the Main Hall.

TABLE SHOWS

Class R - Platy SENIOR 4 Entries Judge T.Blackmore

1	R.Davis
2	R.Davis
3	P.Boore
4	P. Boore

JUNIOR **Platy** 2 Entries Judge T. Blackmore

1	S . Boore	platy	46 points
2	S.Boore I	platy	44 points

CLASS L ~ LOACHES SENIOR Judge . D.Cheswright

1	R.Crow	Kulli Loach	77 Points.
2	P .Boore	Weather Loach	73 Points.
3	J.Paton	Kulli Loach	71 Points.
4	L Somner	Tiger Loach . .	69 Points.

JUNIOR judge D. Cheswright

1	S.Boore	Kulli Loach	82 Points
2	P.Rashbrook	Botia	76 Points
3	R.Pearman	Weather Loach	71 Points
4	J.Wood	Kulli Loach	69 Points

RAFFLE RESULTS

1	POT PLANT	RON DAVIS
2	TIN OP TOFFEES	JENNY WOOD
3	OUTSIDE FILTER	JIM LONDON
4	ROOT-0-POTS	MIKE WOOLARD
5	AQUASAFE	RICHARD LODGE

COMMITTEE MEETINGS 26th FEBRUARY

PRESENT:- PRESIDENT, VICE PRESIDENT, SECRETARY, TREASURER, MRS.CHESWRIGHT and MESSRS. BOORE, P.BURHES, HOLIDAY, MOLES, WOOLARD, LONDON, BLACKMORE AND S. BOORE.

Details of coach outing were discussed and providing enough support could be raised a price of £2.25 for Adults and £1.25 for Children, Outing date planned for 18th May. Food and Magazines received from manufacturers along with the Show tanks received from Thurrock would be auctioned on 18th March. A £5.00 prize was okayed as a prize for best magazine article. Money held £273.85. MEETING CLOSED 11.30 p.m.

25th March

PRESENT:- PRESIDENT, SECRETARY, TREASURER, MRS.CHESWRIGHT, MESSRS, BOORE, SURGES, HOLIDAY, MOLES, BLACKMORE, and JUNIOR REPRESENTATIVE S.BOORE.

Among items discussed were the Coach Outing, which has been held over to the next meeting, and the Social at Roots Hall. Nothing was 'definitely decided on this either, and was left open to discussion. The continued defacing of library books was also brought up. Members were to be asked to stop this practise. Cash held £233-00. Meeting closed at 11.30 p.m.

COMING ATTPACTIONS.

6th MAY, 1980

Auction night. 20th MAY, 80.

20th May 80

TALKs SETTING UP YOUR TANK. TONY COOPER

3rd JUNE 80

TALKS ON BREEDING. TERRY WALLER.

.9th JUNE 80

INTER-CLUB AT WITHAM & BRAINTREE A.S,

17th JUNE 80

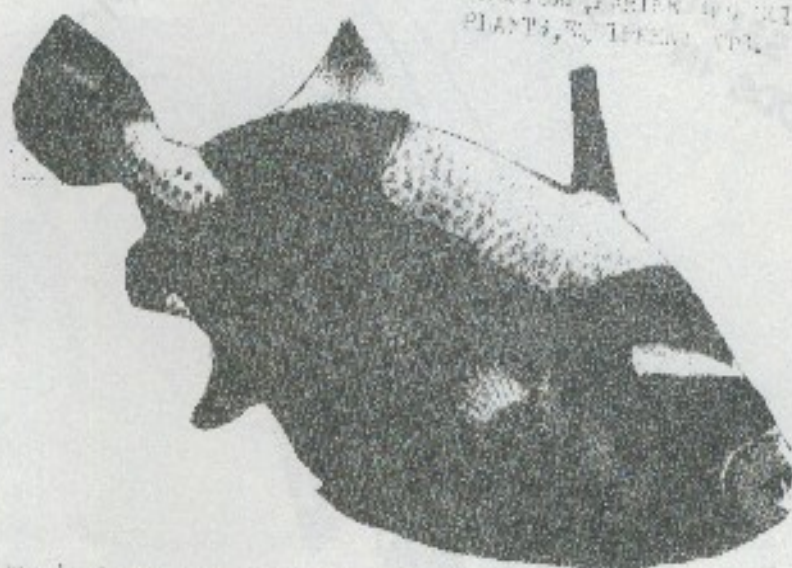
F.B.A.S. TAPE/SLIDE SHOW s ON FISH EVOLUTION

I hope this item can be expanded in the future to take in other fish activities outside ower own Society.

Next months magazine.

Includes Terry Waller on breeding (well I won't tell you on what but its certainly a must for all members). Dave Ches with part three of his livebearer article and Ray Stanford with 'A day at the sea side.'

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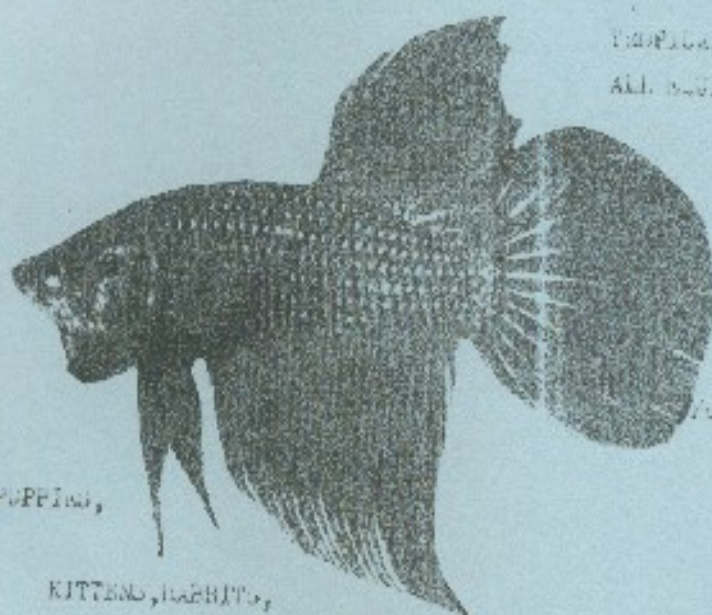
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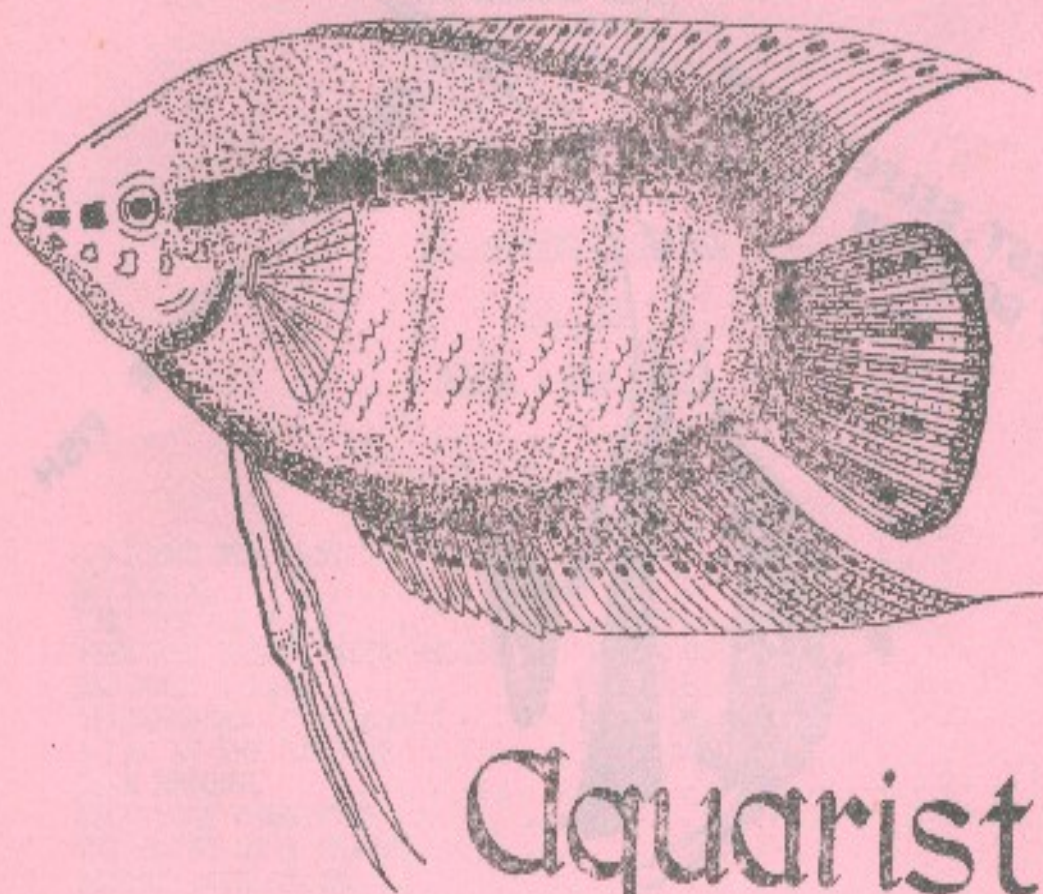
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EVERYTHING FOR THE
AQUARIST.

Southend, Leigh and District



Aquarist
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Journal

- 1 -

-

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(Founded 1933, or before)

Meetings are held on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of every month, the meeting commences at 8.30 p.m.
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BI - MONTHLY JOURNAL
NO. 80
APRIL - MAY 1980

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OPEN SHOW SECRETARY

JIM LONDON (AS ABOVE)

EDITORIAL

With the open Show over -for another year, we can all relax.and pay..more. .attention to entering other Shows. I personally would like to see more of our own members visiting other shows, as this always -keeps the club's name to the fore. I did mention in the last issue that the points awarded at Open Shows count towards the Rose Bowl for highest pointed Club member. -

Actually I was under the wrong impression, as in fact these points count towards the Open Show Cup, which also includes one point for entering. The trophy has been won for about the last six years by Dave Cheswright. A list of shows during the next two months can be seen under Coming Attractions on Page 18

Dick Mills F.B.A.S.'s bulletin editor has agreed to judge our competition for the best magazine article. As you know the prize is £5 in cash. Dick has also offered a copy of his new book to add to the prize, which now makes for a really worthwhile prize. Dick's book has not yet been published, but should be available at the F.B.A.S. Show at the Alexandra Palace (25th-27th July 1980), From a quick glance at our Open Show the book looks really good.

During the coming months each committee member has been asked to write half a page or so on their respective committee posts for the Journal.

This is just to inform members who might like to stand for a committee post exactly what they might be letting themselves in for.

PRESIDENT'S NOTES

Dave Cheswright.

Now that our successful Open Show is over and I have moved all the old fish-shed's contents to the new fish-house there should be more time to spent in keeping fishes.

Members can now go to other Societies' Shows without having to do all the work!!! I would like to make mention of the Junior members who worked as hard as the Seniors at the Open Show and also help at our regular meetings. No names, but thanks to them in general for their keenness and efforts in carrying water, running about during judging on various jobs and general help at all times during the Show and in getting it ready and breaking down.

Mention has been made that the standard of fishes entered in Table Shows could be higher, My intention is to first of all. encourage members to bring their entries; this I think we have achieved this as the numbers of entries has been higher in the past few months. Derek Durrant made the point in April that you should take care in catching your entries -many good fishes are shown with damaged fins, etc., caused in catching them on the night. A little more care, using a soft net as Derek said, or by removing the fish in a dish, jar or plastic bag instead of a net makes all the difference, avoiding damage and making for better deportment. It can be done with a little patience.

On top of that take care when buying fishes, not only for showing but for your pleasure in the hobby. Never buy any fish which is thin, hollow-bellied or hides away frightened in the-corner of the dealer's tank. Watch for damaged or deformed fins — even check that the fish has all the fins it should have been born with. Sometimes they are born with a fin..or two missing and they will never then grow. Fishes are not always in good colour and will almost never be fully grown in the shops. These two points are up to you and depend on the way you look after them. Bear in mind also that, if you do buy a fully-grown fish, it could also be quite old and may not last long in your tanks; it would also probably not be good for showing for very long.

Any members who would like to come and see my new fish-house please let me have their names so that I can work out a rota if there are more than a few. Could any other members, willing to have such visits, also let me have their names.

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- ANOTHER FIRST FOR EAST-LONDON
HOW I BRED CHANNA MICROPELTIS THE SNAKEHEAD

Terry Waller E.L.A.P.A. &S.L.A.G,

This is an interesting little fish that I have been rather interested in for some years. I don't think anyone else in the Club has worked with this fish so the following is a detailed report of how I went about an attempt at breeding this charming little fish from the Far East. Like most fish to be bred, it is best to start with half a dozen young specimens. The advantages from this are that you can buy them small (24 inches is ideal) and cheap, about £15 each.

Study your purchases and when they start to settle down you will see them pairing off. When the male is ready to breed you will probably notice he bites huge lumps out of the female; it is a good idea to separate them at this time. The remaining fish you can either pass on to your friends or take up to your local fishmongers. To separate and condition these fish you need four basic requirements.

1. Two empty tanks (9 foot x 3 foot x 3 foot are ideal)
2. A larger than normal net (an old Trawler net is ideal) About a Ton of gravel (coloured is O.K.)
3. A friend in the retail meat trade.

At this time try and stay calm and keep your nerve. After separating we must settle down to the job of bringing the pair into prime breeding condition. These fish love good meaty food so I recommend Scotch steak- they really tuck into it. Feed it three or four times a day, but never more than a pound at a time. Chop it up - anything under 0X0 cube size is useless. A standing order with Smithfield Market is a definite advantage. Clean conditions are a must to bring fish into condition so we found that by changing a little drop each day an advantage; don't go mad emptying the tank out - just 80 to 100 gallons a day will do fine. The best time to do this little job is just before you go to bed.

If this procedure is strictly adhered to, sure enough in about six weeks time the fish will be coloured up, active and ready for the spawning tank. These fish are active spawners and rather prolific. You could be really lucky and get 18-20,000 eggs depending on the age of the fish.

Although this sounds a lot, you will lose a lot and could end up with only 12-14,000 young. So we now prepare our third 9 foot tank, and place about 2 inches of marbles on the bottom, then fill carefully with

Carefully collected rain water, to ensure cleanliness, boil it first. Leave about 4 inches from the top because they are very active spawners, and this saves a lot of water sloshing about all over the carpet. These fish live in densely planted environment so the tank must be planted out, preferably with Cryptocorynes, Wisneria and other plants which are found in Asiatic waters. Unfortunately their activity becomes so fierce during the mating that a lot of the plants become damaged but everything has its little drawbacks.

Now comes the dodgy part when you need a bit of help, putting the fish together. By this time the female is about 30 inches with a 6 inch girth, weighing about 15 lbs and the male if anything is a bit bigger.

Spread out the trawler net across the tank and get four of your friends to grip one corner each. Very carefully coax the fish into the net by prodding it or poking it with a bit of 2 x 2 wood. **DON'T TRY USING YOUR HANDS.** I do this in the dark when the metabolism of the fish is slower; they don't seem to fight so much. I had one lovely little female, bless her, who thought the stick was food and bit off 6 inches. When you have her in the net, hoist out quick and dump in the spawning tank, banging down the top glass as soon as possible.

It is a good idea to use 2" inch plate with a dozen house bricks to hold it down. Put out the lights and go to bed. It can be a bit disconcerting to lie in bed listening to the thrashing about, but this is nature's way, so not to worry. Apprehensively you come down next morning, and after mopping up the water look in the tank. What you are looking for is eggs, grey in colour and about the size of a marble; this could account for the thrashing about.

Don't try changing the water or taking the parents away. They look after their young and anyway they will take your hand off. When the eggs hatch and the fry that are quite big seem to be chasing each other and biting bits out of one another, (usually after two weeks) this is a sign that they are hungry, and are ready for their first meal of chopped earth worms or ox heart. Now is the time to remove the parents using the same procedure as before.

Provided the youngsters are fed well and given water changes and swimming space (this can be a problem with 20,000 fry but can be overcome by purchasing a few extra tanks) they will grow very rapidly and if you are really lucky they will be up to six inches in about 3 months, looking like and acting just like their parents. As you gaze upon the fish you can reflect how wonderful nature can be because with just the purchase of a couple of fish and a little bit of effort on your part ends up three months later with thousands of lovely six inch snakeheads to give your friends and wait till you see the delighted look on the shopkeepers face as you hand him bags full of the little beauties. "

T.Waller E.L.A.P.A.

BEGINNERS' PAGE

Terry Blackmore
(S.L.A.D.A.S. & S.L.A.G)

Another easy to Breed Egglayer *Tanichlys albonubes* (White Cloud Mountain Minnow). Often referred to as the poor mans Neon, this fish is very hardy and likes a temperature of around 65 degrees f. This fish found in the Canton province of China is very easy to keep and will eat practically anything edible offered as food.

Because of its preference for a lower temperature this fish is not really a community tank fish. All the same this fish is very peaceful and does not appear to eat its own eggs or young. The young when born are far brighter than neon Tetras in colour. The green strip is really brilliant.

The first time I bred this fish was completely accidental. I discovered hundreds of very minute young hanging on the sides of the tank. This would substantiate that the parents don't touch the eggs or young, as there were about a dozen fully grown fish in the tank.

The second time I especially set up a tank to breed. The tank (18x10x10) was filled with enough round stones (glass marbles) to cover the bottom of the tank and several green nylon mops were placed in the tank with a water temperature of 65 °f.

The fish I had been feeding live foods (e.g. White worms, tubifex, daphnea) as well as dried foods. These were fed in small amounts as often as possible. I used three males and three females, which were kept separated, in their separate sexes. When the females were showing signs of being full of eggs, I removed several inches of water from the breeding tank and put in the parent fish.

After allowing the fish to settle the tank was topped up with cold water (about 50/55°f.)« The next day I removed several more inches of water and replaced with more cold water. It is reported that this fish spawns when the snows in the White Cloud Mountains melts and colder water flows into the rivers, hence the cold water. After two days I removed the parents and within two days numerous young could be seen perched on the stones and tank sides.

No food was given until the young were free swimming. Then they were fed on finely ground flake fish food.

In all somewhere in the region of 3-400 young were raised, some of which went to Dave Ches` and other club members, some to shops and the rest about 50 I kept.

LIVEBEARERS (Continued from Page 10, Journal No.795
Dave Cheswright. SLADAS, SLAG, BASS, N.G.L.S.

(3) Goodeas

.These fishes come under the Family GOODEIDAE. In their breeding mechanism they are more advanced in the evolution scale than any other tropical freshwater fishes kept by Aquarists. Their fry are, of course, born alive as is the case with all Livebearers, BUT, when they are born they are far more advanced in development. Basically they are much bigger when born than are other Live-bearers, When other Livebearers are born they have merely just hatched from the eggs inside the female; she being a "receptical" in which to hatch the eggs. The fry are much larger than egglayer fry but, nevertheless, in weight are slightly lighter than the original egg, which was inside the female. In the case of the Mosquito (*Heterandria formosa*) the fry weigh very slightly more than the original egg. This species achieves this by the fact that the Mosquito gives birth to 1 or 2 fry at a time over a long period of days.

The remarkable points in the case of G-ooideas are:

- (1) The fry when born weigh about 1000 times heavier than the original eggs
- (2) The eggs hatch soon after fertilisation of the eggs within the female; they then develop what can be described as an umbilical cord and this becomes attached to the mother fish, the fry being fed through this from the female. The fry lie side by side inside the mother fish and this accounts for the fact that Goodeas do not have a "gravid spot" around which they become very fat when pregnant. Instead they become generally fat along their whole body from behind the head to the vent. Often, when born, they have white filaments attached to them and these are the remains of the "umbilical cord".

This puts the Goodeas reproductive system far in advance of other Livebearers and begins to approach that of mammals, which, of course, they are not.

Much of the above information has been proved by research for the first time in the last 18 months by John Dawes, B.A.S.S. and S.L.A.G., who is a lecturer at Bath University. At our last S.L.A.G. Meeting in March, 1980, he showed electro - microscope photographs of the fry and "umbilical cord" of up to 250,000 x magnification. (Also see Practical Pishkeeping, September to December, 1979 for John's Articles on this family).

I will describe various species of Goodeas in future Articles but here is a summary of their basic requirements, and other peculiarities.

- (1) The males do not have a gonopodium, but a "nick" on the edge

of the anal fin; the fin is, as far as is known, folded in the shape of a tube to direct the sperm to the female on close contact.

- (2) The female has only one brood of fry each time she is fertilised. (Other livebearers can have up to 5/6 broods without further, fertilisation).
- (3) The number of fry per brood is normally much less than with other livebearers; usually about 20/30 but in some cases less. An exception is *Ameca splendens* which, in the U.K., has been said to have dropped about 70 fry on one occasion.
- (4) The fry, as stated above, are very large at birth and it is quite amazing to realise that they have come from the female at one time --she never seems big enough to have held the total size of the fry.
- (5) Because of the fact of the mother fish feeding the fry for a period of about 5/6 weeks she is quite often very weak and always very thin looking after giving birth. It is advisable, therefore, to keep the female by herself for a-week after birth to allow her to recover away from the male's attention. Females should be well-fed at all times to give them the nutriment needed to feed the developing fry.
- (6) On the whole Goodeas are very hardy. They will tolerate temperatures of from 65F upwards (18C up). They eat all manner of foods but particularly like green-food; therefore, do not worry about algae in the tank as it is essential for their food. They appreciate live-foods but, in most cases, these are not a must.
- (7) In most cases they seem to prefer unlit tanks; a good carpet of plants on the bottom and surface are ideal. '.

There are seven species of Goodeas in the U.K. at present and I will describe these in the next article.

A DAY AT THE SEASIDE

Ray Stanford S.L.A.D.A.S.

It was a fine day in March. Jim London and I were feeling particularly brave so we decided to venture across the Thames and go to Brighton to see how the other half lived. It just so happened that the day in question, Sunday the 9th, was also the day of the Brighton Open Show.

Perhaps it was the curry I'd cooked for us all the night before that dulled our senses, otherwise we'd have recognised the omens and stayed at home. I called for Jim just after nine. He had entered four fish in the Show, a *Ctenopoma kingsleyae*, a Sun Bass, a Catfish (*Pseudodoras niger*) and a Fire Eel.

I found him in his fish house with the first two already caught. To show these fish we were taking one 36", one 30" and two 18" tanks. The catfish, all 24" of it, was travelling in it's showing tank; to catch it Jim just reached into the tank it was in, lifted it out and placed it in the showing tank with about 4 inches of water! We loaded the tanks into the car and thought we'd soon be away.

Fire Eels, being mainly nocturnal, spend most of the daylight hours hidden in some dark spot. Jim puts plastic pipes in his tanks for fish such as these to shelter in. They have a razor-sharp dorsal fin and must therefore be handled with great care. Jim catches his by putting one end of the pipe it is in into a plastic bag under water and lifting the other end to tip the Eel into the bag. Sounds easy doesn't it? After several attempts the Eel was in the bag and transferred to a bucket.

So far, so good! Next thing we know the Eel is on the floor. It takes several minutes to catch it and put it back into it's tank. Can't take it now, it's damaged ! Still, we can always take the other one. You must be joking, he wasn't coming quietly either ! We didn't even get him out of the tank.

We should have called it a day at that point, but we didn't. Still, ...we-did expect the fish we had caught to be well-placed.

We reached Hove, where the Show Hall was, in an hour and a quarter. Perhaps it wasn't such a bad day ! "You've got ten minutes before close of benching" ! Some of the staging was already sagging under it's existing load and we were a.....

bit dubious about adding our relatively large tanks to it. Just as well we hadn't taken the 3 foot tank.

Still we managed to get benched and left the judges to do their best (or worst?).

There isn't much to do in Hove on a Sunday afternoon in early March, particularly as the hall was in the middle of a residential area, so most people chose to sit and talk and wait for the results. And we waited and waited and waited ! Needless to say the judging sheets of the classes we were interested in (E, G, and W) were among the last put -up! In spite of our expectations, only a third for the Sun Bass, the others coming nowhere. To rub salt'into the wound Jim felt that the Koi which beat the Sun Bass should probably have been disqualified. He was a bit sick, especially when the judge concerned more or less agreed- with him.

We'd sneaked a look at the coldwater classes while the .tropicals were still being judged and...when the main- hall- was opened up at approximately 4.30 we went to have a look at the fish on the bench. Entries numbered-about 500 and there were some nice fish there. But, being disappointed with our placings and the day in general, (we didn't even have consolation of Dave Cheswright and Tony Moles doing well, because they hadn't either) we de-benched as soon as we could and made our way home.

Footnote : At the Croydon Open Show two weeks later, the same catfish won it's class and was narrowly beaten for Beat Fish in Show. ; ; • , ' - , ' • , ; - .

PLEASE ..NOTE . ..; PLEASE NOTE PLEASE NOTE ***** *****

15th August 1980

Don't forget this meeting has been CANCELLED, as the Hall is otherwise being used.
Bob Esson will now give his talk on the 16th September, in lieu of talk on Guppies.

CLUB REPORT 1st April 1980

All Fools Day, but our Quiz Team didn't make fools of themselves in The Inter-Club Quiz, narrowly beating the teams from East London and Witham and Braintree. Our team from memory was Jim London, Ray Stanford, Howard Preston, and Dave Cheswright, Mind you our Table Show result was rather disappointing.

QUIZ RESULTS.

1. SLADAS	60 Points
2. -WITHAM	55
3. ELAPPA	53

RAFFLE PRIZES

1.. S. Boore	Lager
A.Brown	Wine
3 B.Middleton	Fruit
4. N. Leivers	Weekend
5. N. Feltwell	Bucket

TABLE SHOW RESULTS (Inter Club)

Class Da.	13 entries	Judge T. Wooley
1 D. Hart	Witham/Braintree	Apisto` pretence 81 Points
2. P.Rashbrook	S.L.A.D.A.S.	Apisto` wickleri 79
3. D.Hart	Witham/Braintree	Apisto` pretence 75
4. R.Thoday	Witham/Braintree	Apisto` pretence 74
Class E.	20 entries	Judge K. Saxby
M. Waller	ELAPPA	<i>Colisa chuna</i> 76 points
2. D. Burgess	SLADAS	Moonlight goursami 74
3. R.Thoday	Witham	<i>Ciolisa chuna</i> 72
4. D.J.Wood	ELAPPA	<i>Trichogaster leeri</i> 71½
Class H.	22 entries	Judge P.Cottle
1. R.Thoday	Witham	<i>Corydoras nanus</i> 81 points
2. R.Thoday	Witham	<i>Corydoras blochi</i> 79
3. R.Thoday	Witham	<i>Corydoras blochi</i> 77
4. B.Meech	Witham	<i>Brochis splendens</i> 76

Class B 20 entries Judge T.Wooley

1. D.J.Wood	ELAPPA	<i>B. calipterus</i>	79 points
2. B.Meech	Witham	Clown barb	77
3. 3. K.Newman	Witham	Spanner barb	76½
4 R.Thoday	Witham	Puckelli barb	76

Class T. 21 entries Judge K.Saxby

1. T.Waller	ELAPPA	<i>Limia versicolor</i>	76 points
2. D.Cheswright	SLADAS	Two spot	73
3. D.Cheswright	SLADAS	<i>Priopella intermedia</i>	72½
4. 4.B.Meech	Witham	<i>Poecilia perugae</i>	72

Class L. 21 entries Judge P. Cottle

1. R.Thoday	Witham	<i>Lepid` taeniatus</i>	80 points
2. "	Witham	Coloita	77½
3. D.J.Wood	ELAPPA	<i>Botia sidthimunki</i>	77
4. R.Thoday	Witham	Acanta 33	75

TOTAL POINTS

1. Witham 1792
2. ELAPA 1717
3. SLADAS 1683i
- 4.

The second round of the Interclub is at Witham and Braintre on Monday June 9th, so the final round will be at East London or Friday 5th September 1980. :-

15th April 1980

Jim London gave a talk on ponds. As I was busy I didn't hear too much, but there seemed to be plenty of laughter, so it must have gone down well.

After the break Chris Ches gave his first ever lecture on setting up an Aquascape. I bet his knees were shaking. Must be really hard the first time - "Well done Chris".

Raffle prizes

- | | |
|----------------------|-------------|
| 1. Tony Cooper | Tank |
| 2. Jim London | Food |
| 3. Dave Holiday | Food |
| 4. Audrey Cheswright | Thermometer |
| 5. R. Crow | Thermostat |
| 6. J. Farrow | Plant |

TABLE SHOW RESULTS

Mini Tanks Senior

	4 entries	Judge Terry Waller
1. T.Moles	72 points	
2. R.Davis	71	
3. L. C omner	65½	
4. K. Turner	65	

Junior

	4 Entries	Judge Terry Waller
1. J. Wood	61 points	
2. S. Boore	58½	
3 R. Pearman	58	
4 P. Rashbrook	54	

Members Challenge:- Results after 4th Showing Judge -D. Durrant

6th May 1980

Auction night had 55 members bidding for a good range of fishy items, including filters, plants, reeds, snails, tanks and not least of all fish.

RAFFLE PRIZES

1. Ken Dyke	Carving knife set & serve
2. Paul Cole	Photo Album
3. Les Bell	Mugs
4. Rob Pearman	Magic Brush

TABLE SHOW RESULTS

Class G - A.O.S. Catfish

Senior

	2 entries	judge Jim London
1. L. Somner	<i>H. Fossilis</i>	68 points
2. P. Boore	Clown Panche	54

Junior

	6Entries	Judge :- Jim London
1. R. Pearman	<i>Ancistrus Dolitroptera</i>	76 Points
2. S. Boore	<i>Mystis Tingara</i>	75
3. J. Wood	Glass Catfish	72
4. R.Pearman	<i>Synodontis species</i>	58½

Class D6 - Dwarf Cichlids

Senior

	3 entries	Judge Terry Blackmore
1. L. : Somner	<i>P. Pulcher</i>	72 points
2. L. Somner	<i>P. Pulcher</i>	70
3. T. Moles .	<i>P. Thomasi</i>	67

Junior

.	4 Entries	Judge - Terry Blackmore
1. J. Wood	<i>A. Ramirezi</i>	64 Points
2. J. Wood	<i>A. Ramirezi</i>	53
3. P. Rashbrook	<i>P. Pulcher</i>	45
4. P. Rashbrook	<i>A. Reitziggi</i>	42

Something I would like to mention about the table show tonight. The majority of the fish on view in the Dwarf Cichlid classes were sat in the back corner of their tanks, making it almost impossible to judge. Only two were not, and these both won their class.

Next month's Magazine

Dave Cheswright on livebearers. The beginners Page and whatever else I can contribute to members into writing. Plus the Open Show Report.

What you read may,not all be true !!!!

Terry Waller gave me his article on 1st April at our meeting. I wonder why I don't believe he has any nine foot tanks or friends who would like a 1,000 or so snakeheads. Thanks again Terry. I thought it was funny.

- 16 -

-
- KNOW YOUR COMMITTEE

THE TREASURER Ray Stanford

The Treasurer has probably, although other Committee members might disagree, the most responsible post in the Society, in that he looks after the finances of the Society. Briefly, the duties are :-

1. Payments All.. expenditure of the-Society is controlled, by. the Treasurer, all payments being made direct or by reimbursement of the person paying the original bill.
2. Income. All income of the Society is received by the Treasurer, and is mostly at meetings from, for example, subscriptions, raffles and teas.
- 3- Committee Reports. For each monthly Committee Meeting the Treasurer prepares a statement .giving details of the financial transactions of the Society since the last Committee meeting, and the current financial position,
4. Annual Report. For the Annual General Meeting of the Society a statement..showing the income and--expenditure during- -• the year is prepared together with the financial position at the year end (31st October).

Although many people are for some reason wary of any position where money is involved, the duties of the Treasurer are fairly straightforward, and do not require a financial background, or special knowledge. After all, with calculators you don't even need to be able to add up.

Advertising

Any member wishing to place an advertisement in our Journal for their own business may do so. Cost of adverts will be decided by the Committee, depending on the size required.

Open Show 1980

The Open Show report will be in the next Journal as it was not ready in time for this edition.

The 1981 Open Show is already being planned. Details will be announced later.

XIPHOPHORUS VARIATUS (BLINDELLI) THE BLIND CAVE PLATY

This tiny fish has only just been discovered (as recently as late 1979) found in the same caves as the Blind Cave fish (*Anoplichthys Jordani*). The fish is so small under ½" female and ¼" males, which is one reason for it being undiscovered for so long. And was only discovered by pure chance.

While collecting water samples to test, Professor Luis Potosi Blindelli of Mexico University was lucky enough to collect one female in a water sample. This caused immediate curiosity and subsequently a male was caught.

These fish, like the Blind Cave fish are without any eyes having long ago lost the need for these. The young when first born do have eyes but very soon these disappear. The fish are absolutely colourless, being a dirty looking white, and never venture far away from the water's edge, as they find their way around by touching either the tank walls or bottom. They have developed a barbel on each corner of their mouths, to aid them with this. The Barbel being about one third of the length of the fish.

Being a live bearer this fish produces its young much the same as other platys. But usually only produces one large fry (approximately 20 num.) every five or six weeks. Birth of two fry are extremely rare. Three is completely unknown to this date, hence the rarity of this fish.

When crossed with regular platys, funny things happen. Young are born with one eye, often this is not even in the right place, being more towards the centre of the head. Some fish can use these eyes, while others can't. Also Barbels are often absent or only one appears. This means the fish, if blind, can only follow the tank's sides with the barbel on that side, and only goes around in one direction. If one is born with no eyes or barbels it just bumps into things and very rarely survives for long. :

The male's gonopodium is unusual, as it is always held in the forward position. As the males and females only meet by accident and contact is very brief. As the male tries to mate he loses all contact with the female and the water's edge and

(Continued on page 18)

COMING ATTRACTIONS

June 1st	Mid-Sussex	Large Inter-club Show,-S.L, A.-D. A.S. are invited
3rd	S.L.A.D.A.S.	Breeding fish - T .-Waller
7th	Sudbury	Open Show - At Wembley
9th	Witham/Braintree	Inter-club Table Show Classes C, Dc, G, JK, 0 to S and W.
17th	S.L.A.D.A.S.	F.B'.A.S. Tape/Slide Show on Fish evolution
21st	Havant.	Open Show
1st July	S.L.A.D.A.S.	Fish Houses - B.Meech and B.Thoday
6th	South-East London	Open Show At Greenwich
12/13th	Romford & Becontree	Open Show -at DagenhamTown Show
15th	S.L,A,D.A.S. .	Auction
25/27th	FBAS	F.B.A.S. Show - at Alexandra Palace

(Continued from previous page)

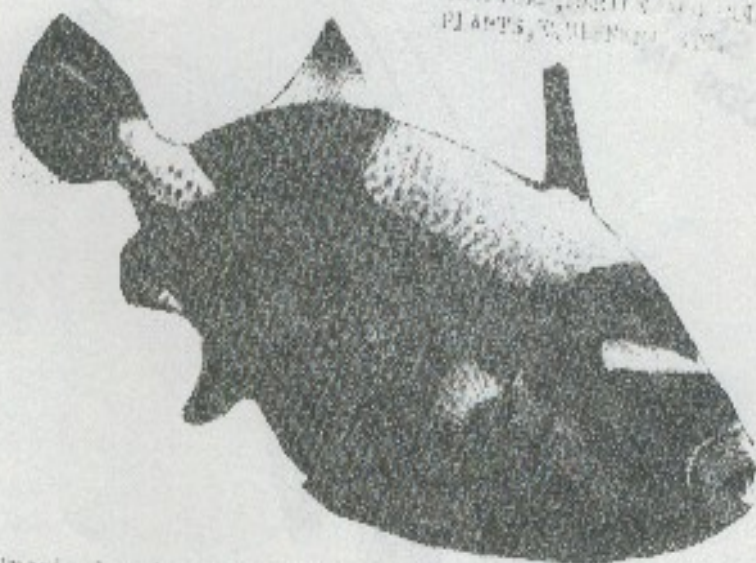
as such is completely in the dark, so to speak. Hence the time taken to move the gonopodium would mean the male losing contact with the female, and no fertilization would take place. As yet there are only about a dozen or so of these fish known in captivity, and as yet there are none in the U.K., and I don' t suppose there ever will be, as these fish, because of their rarity are protected by law. One person who tried to take these fish out of Mexico was imprisoned for fifteen years for smuggling.

Researched by Terry Waller (E.L.A.P.A. and S.L.A.G.) and Terry Blackmore (S.L.A.D.A.S. and S.L.A.G.)

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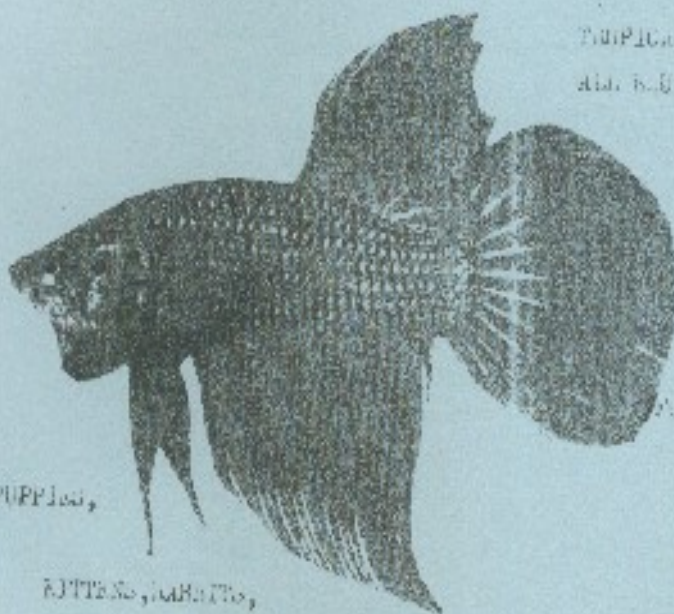
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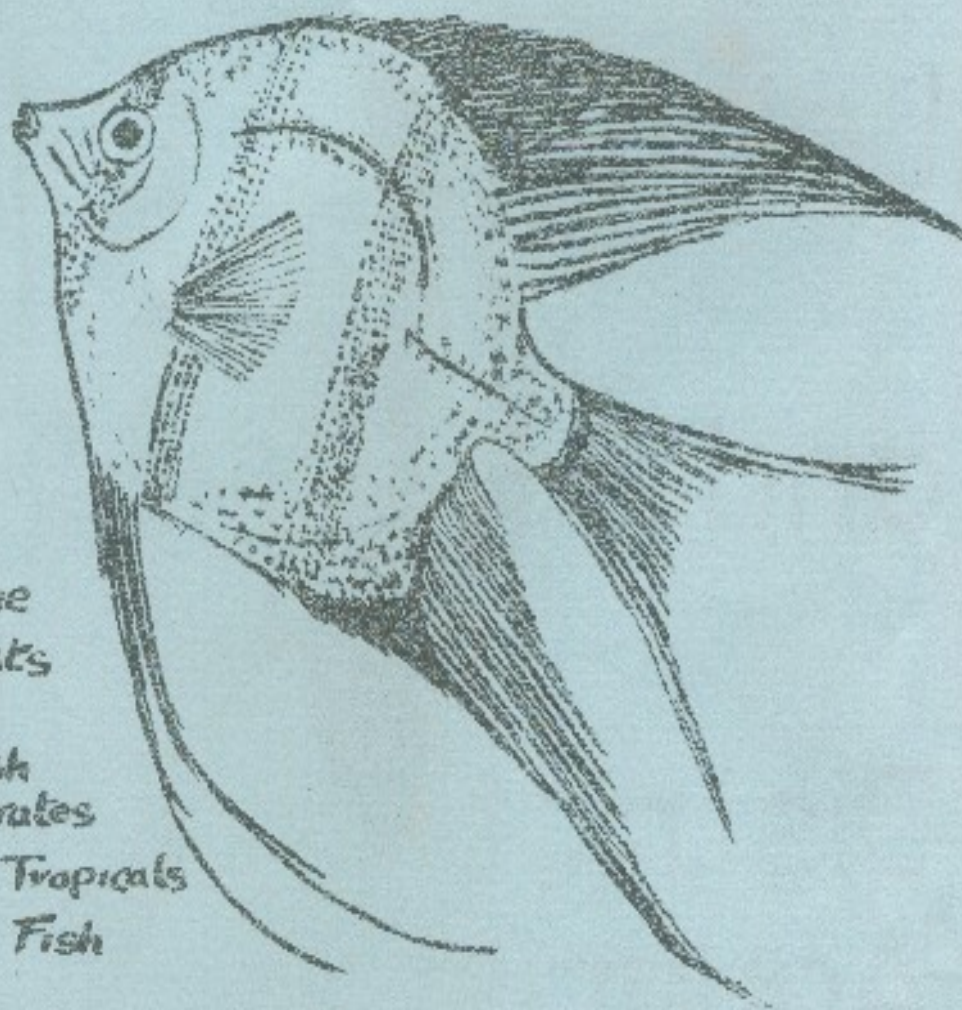
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Journal

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(Founded 1935 or before)

Meetings are held on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of every month; the meeting commences at 8,30 p.m.

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OPEN SHOW SECRETARY

JIM LONDON (AS ABOVE)

EDITORIAL

As you most probably know, I have been in Hospital recently, and this has caused delay in getting this issue ready. It was planned that as Mrs. Miell had just moved I would type out this issue myself. As I ended up in Hospital the Committee decided that this issue should go to Mrs. Miell after all. This meant lots more writing as typing it yourself is easier, as you can do it as you go along, saves a lot of writing.

This issue has D. Cheswright on more Livebearers and some Show Reports now a bit dated.

A couple of Committee members have written about their respective jobs. I'm still waiting for the rest of you committee members to let me have your half page or so on what your job entails.

There are plenty of magazines arriving. I had mags from South Africa, Colorado U.S.A., and Mid Sussex. They are well worth reading and are kept in the library box, and can be borrowed. But don't forget to return them for others to read.

Dave Cheswright and myself will be going to a B.A.S.S. meeting in early October. The talk is on livebearers, and I believe Dave will be talking for half an hour or so (fame at last DaveJ), besides Six or so others.

. Elsewhere there is a list of Club members who have joined specialist Societies. If you wish to join any of these Societies contact these members or any committee member, who will put you in touch with the special Society of your choice.

PRESIDENT'S NOTES

Dave Cheswright.

At the time of writing I have had no response at all (at 1st July) to my offer to show Members our new fish house.

We have run the cold water supply into it from a two-way fitting, so that the outside tap can be used for the fish-house and the garden. This has resulted in several floodings whilst the garden hose has been in use. These plastic fittings are all right most of the time, but the end sometimes comes off. We have partly solved the problem by putting the hose end into our drainage system when not being used to fill the storage tank. However, even this is not fully reliable as the force of the water has already once pushed the hose onto the floor. The floor is watertight thanks to Tony Moles' sealing job, and it takes a long time to mop up even a few gallons of water. The only consolation is that the floor gets a wash.

The National Fishkeeping Show is being held at Alexandra Palace, London, on 8th to 10th August, 1980. It is promoted by the Hounslow Pet and Garden Centre in collaboration with the F.B.A.S. The Great Hall has been booked, and there is ample space for Trade Stands, Society Tableaux and Specialist Society stands, as well as Fish, etc. entries. There are no fees for entering the competitive classes which cover the full range from A to Z. The Show Secretary is Bill Hastings, 4, Lyveden Road, Blackheath, London, S.E.15. from whom entry forms can be obtained. Also stewards are needed and anyone who would like to help should contact Bill. I understand that all stewards will be treated to a Dinner/Dance after the Show. I would like to see us running a coach trip to see the Show on Sunday, 10th August. Anyone interested please let Audrey know. This should be a Show well worth seeing.

Progress report from Terry Waller re his Snakeshead breeding programme indicates that it is only a rumour that he has been trying to hire the local Reservoir for raising fry - apparently he could not hire enough container trucks for the transport work. (See April/May, 1980 Journal). Margaret Waller is fed up with this species and, having been accepted as an F.B.A.S. Judge, has included Coldwater in her classes' list.

Dave Burgess has finally had some success breeding his Angels, after several spawnings. Although he has only a few fry after about a month, this is quite an achievement, as all his Aquaria are in the lounge - not a good place to breed anything let alone a temperamental species such as Angels. Dave only needs a little bit more encouragement to get a fish shed going. Tony Moles' shed is coming along nicely and Ray Stanford's is in use. How about some progress reports??

SHOW REPORTS

Dave Cheswright.

Mid-Sussex A.S. held their second Invitation large inter-club Show in Burgess Hill, Sussex, on Sunday, 1st June.

12 Clubs out of about 30 invited took part and 422 entries were obtained. I do not really see why this is not run as an Open Show as it was large enough. Mid Sussex had a stand selling everything from fishes to garden ornaments. Specialist Societies having stands were British Killiefish Association, Catfish Association and Southern Livebearers Aquatic Group, the latter which I and Tom Tester, the Mid-Sussex Show secretary together with Terry Waller, ran.

Tony Moles and I went on behalf of Southend - it was a fine day and we had a good drive down. Having benched our entries and set up the SLAG stand with Tom's help we went off during judging to sample the local brew and the countryside. It was a pity we did not have enough time to warrant going to the local gardens, belonging to Kew Gardens. We only had an hour so spare when we got there and it was £1 to get in. So we went to a Nursery opposite for a look at their tremendous collection of Rhodedendrons, Azaleas, etc., which were in full bloom.

:

Back to the show we were pleased to see we had 1sts in classes Za, plants, and Xo-t, Breeders Livebearers, 4th in class No-t, Pairs livebearers, and 3rd in class U, Twintail goldfish. Thanet A.S. won top points, with Mid-Sussex, Brighton and Portsmouth, 2nd, 3rd and 4th. We had only 15 points which was nowhere near the Thanet total of 50.

..

Our troubles started when we left at 6.30 p.m. hoping to be home in two hours. We just got to the A23 when the car's clutch decided to disconnect itself, and we were stranded near a Pizza bar, luckily with a 'phone. We rang home not really expecting any help, and we spent a fortune on tea and coffee in the next two hours. It was no use ringing the Mid-Sussex members until then, as they would be breaking down the Show. Finally we got hold of Tom's home, and were rescued. Thanks are due to Tom and his parents for looking after the fishes for almost a week and to his brother-in-law for taking us to Gatwick to catch a train. We finally got home at about 1 a.m. - Tony doing the trip to Pitsea on Chris's bike.!!! The car was towed in by a friend of Tom's father, and I had to go and collect it the next Thursday.

The gearbox went two weeks later (also on a fishy trip) and the car ended up scrapped.

THE PRESIDENT'S JOB

Dave Cheswright

In S.L.A.D.A.S. we do not for some reason have a Chairman, only a President. Therefore whoever is appointed is really a Chairman. As I see it the job of Chairman is that of overseeing the other Committee members and the interests of the Members in total. The other Committee members have their jobs to do and as long as things are being run reasonably smoothly the Chairman should not interfere.

The Chairman has to supervise the Meetings of the Society and this sometimes presents a problem which is caused by our not having the Hall until 8.30 p.m. Quite often, with Table Shows being benched and members wanting to have a chat I have to bang the hammer to get the Meeting started, and this usually not until about 9 p.m. I think that once we do start things run smoothly enough. Being Chairman, members come to me with their suggestions, which are not always practical; so if any idea is not taken up do not assume you are being ignored. All suggestions are brought forward to the Committee which meets once a month.

At Committee meetings the Chairman obviously airs his views as do all Committee members; we seldom have to take a vote at Meetings, but, if we do, the Chairman has only a casting vote to be used if other members vote equally. This, I am glad to say, does not often occur.

Committee meetings can be hectic at times with widely differing views and it is the Chairman's job to make sure that all Committee members have their say. Sometimes discussions can go a bit round in circles, and the Chairman has to call a halt so that ALL business can be completed in the time available. I feel it is obviously advisable to have as Chairman a Member who takes a very active part in the Hobby so that he knows what is going on, both in Fish-keeping and in the "politics" of the hobby nationwide. Failing this a Member should be chosen who is-very active in the work of S.L.A.D.A.S. and the hobby locally.

The Chairman needs some sort of organising ability as well. A change of face every couple of years is, I think, a good idea. This gets a new face Chairing meetings and a different viewpoint.

-
- **LIVEBEARERS** (Continued from page 8 Journal No. 80)
Dave Cheswright, S.L.A.D.A.S., S.L.A.G., BASS, N.G.L.S.

In the last Article I described Goodeas in general. 2 Members of this family were caught in the wild by Howard Preston (S.L.A.D.A.S. & S.L.A.G.), in 1975.

(1) *Goodea atripinnis*. This species is of a basic greenish body colour, somewhat similar to a Tench. Females grow to about 4-5- inches and Males a bit smaller. They are a very greedy and boisterous fish and I am sure they could be fed many times a day and would still be hungry. They are sometimes known as the black-finned Goodea. This is because of the fact that the female's fins are often black in colour, (the scientific name "Atripinnis" means black-finned). They are a shallow bodied fish with quite a streamlined shape.

I find that the best conditions are a largish aquarium, in subdued light with plenty of plant growth, particularly on the bottom. The original wild specimens tended to hide away most of the time in the plants and come careering out every time food was put in. They are extremely hardy and I have kept them in the open air during the Summer and Autumn right up to the first frost when they became very inactive and were brought in. This was an experiment only and I would not advise keeping them outside except between about May and September. During this test they were kept in a 40 gallon fibre glass tank standing by the shed and lived on natural live foods finding its way into the water. They did not grow very much but ended up looking extremely fit and of good colour.

Knowing nothing about Goodeas in 1975 it was very surprising to find young ones in the aquarium some weeks after Howard brought them to the U.K. These were almost half an inch long and I assumed they had been there sometime, although wondering why I had not noticed them before. I decided they must have been living on the bottom for a few weeks to have got to this size.

Removing a female resulted in more fry later and I then realised that they are this size at birth. This shows that one must not jump to conclusions until the facts are known. These large fry are born after a gestation period of 5/6 weeks and broods of 30/40 are not unusual. For the last 3/4 years I have left the adults in a 36 inch aquarium and only removed fry when I wanted to raise a brood or for other Aquarists. This results in a few survivors and there are now specimens of all ages in the same aquarium. They seem to grow just as well in with the adults. From experience since 1975 I would say that they have a life-span of 3/4 years in Aquarium conditions.

Feeding is easy - they eat algae in the aquarium and they are given mainly flake food and sometimes crushed lettuce leaves. The fry do not particularly need brine shrimp, the cost of which is becoming prohibitive.

As far as is known ALL specimens in the U.K. and possibly Europe, came from the few brought in by Howard.

(Over)

LIVBBEARERS (Continued)

- (2) *Limnurgus innominatus*. This Species is the most difficult one to keep and to breed that I have come across in over 30 years of fishkeeping. A few were caught by Howard in a Park in Mexico City. By late 1976 we had only a few specimens left and from those I have bred and distributed over 200 fish in the last three years.. Most- Aquarists, including those with a lot of experience, have lost them with or without breeding them. In the 3 months since moving to my new fish-house I have lost about 50% of my adults, but, luckily took steps to obtain fry from the remainder and still have a total of about 40. I have various thoughts as to my limited success with this species and will go into these and keeping methods in the next Article. .

They grow to about 1½ inches Females and 1 inch Males, very much smaller than the original wild specimens. When in good condition, which is only about 50% of the time, the males go black all-over and the females black on the belly. Otherwise they are of a colour not outstanding, say like a female guppy. Males have a very large Dorsal fin and Anal fin, the latter with the nick mentioned in the last Article. Conditions similar to those for *Goodea atripinnis*, but smaller aquaria are advisable so that they can be observed easily (to see if they are still there). They are not very active and do not seem to like heavy aeration or bright lights.

To be continued. .

KNOW YOUR COMMITTEE ASSISTANT EDITOR

PAUL BOORE

The Assistant Editor's job is one that is not so important in the general running of the Club but without one there would not be a Magazine.

1. Duties. Prints the Magazine and puts it together. Also prints any other printing that is required in large numbers, such as the Rules etc.
2. SPENDING. Responsible for buying stationery such as paper, stencils, ink etc., and generally upsetting the Treasurer with very large bills.
3. PRINTING As far as this is concerned it is not that hard, but patience with awkward Stencils and the scrubbing of ink stained hands is a must. One or two nights every month is all that is needed for this job.

As an active committee member your job is not over, as help in other areas is always needed, such as selling raffle tickets and helping in general on Club nights; also attending Committee Meetings, which is not that bad once you get used to consuming large amounts of food and tea.

3rd June

Terry Waller was unable to give his talk on fish breeding due to a F.B.A.S. committee meeting. Jim London and Ray Stanford filled in with slides. Jim's were of his koi and fish tanks, plus some taken at this year's Open Show. And Ray's on General Fish slides plus some animals from Zoo -visits.

Attendance 50.

Raffle .

- | | |
|-----------------|-------------|
| 1. Julian Wood | .Net |
| 2. Lesley Byatt | Pish tank |
| 3. Pat Read | Thermometer |
| 4. Dave Burgess | Tabi Min. |
| 5. Tony Cooper | Box Sweets |
| 6. Paul Cole | Aqua Safe |

Table Show results.....

Class - Herpetology

Senior 4 Entries'

Judge D. HOLLIDAY

- | | | |
|---------------|-------------|-----------|
| 1. R. Weale | Frog | 59 Points |
| 2. P. Boore | Moor Frog | 55 " |
| 3. Mrs. Perry | Newt | 49 " |
| 4. P. Boore | Smooth Newt | 43 " |

Junior

4 ..Entries Judge D HOLLIDAY

- | | | |
|---------------|-------------|-----------|
| 1. S. Boore | Terrapin | 54 Points |
| 2... S. Boore | Tortoise | 49 " |
| 3. S. Boore | Smooth Newt | 32 " |
| 4. 4 J. Wood | Tortoise | 44 " |

Class Nb- m - Pairs Bgglayers

Senior

10 Entries

Judge - D CHESWRIGHT

- | | | |
|-----------------|-----------------------|-----------|
| 1. L. Byatt | A. australe | 79 Points |
| 2... Mrs. Perry | L. Fulleborn | 78½ " |
| 3. J. Wimbush | Angels | 78 " |
| 4. L. Somner | Bleeding Heart Tetras | 75½ " |

Junior

2 Entries

Judge - D. CHSSWRIGHT

- | | | |
|------------|-------------|-----------|
| 1. J. Wood | A. raminezi | 76 Points |
| 2. J. Wood | Beacons | 72 " : |

Class AK - Aquascapes

Seniors

1 Entry

Judge - P. BOORE

- | | |
|-------------|--------------|
| 1. R. Davis | 52 Pointms . |
|-------------|--------------|

Junior

1 Entry

Judge - P. BOORE

- | | |
|------------|-----------|
| 1. J. Wood | 42 Points |
|------------|-----------|

20th May

Tony Cooper spoke on all the basic ins, and outs of setting up an aquarium. His talk included how many fish to have, ^plants and filtration,

Jim London Judged the fish for the judging competition. The winners were :-
SENIOR Karen Turner
JUNIOR P. Cole

TABLE SHOW

Class H Plants	4 Entries	Judge. Dave Holliday
1. A. Cooper	Leopard Lily	32 Points
2. "	Plant !!	24 "
3. K. Turner	Parlour Palm	23 ".....
4. 3 A. Cooper	Plant !!	22 "

**H Corydorus and Brochis
SENIOR**

	3 Entries	Judge. Jim London
1. R. Neale .	Corydorus Aneus (Albino)	73 Points
2. L. Somner	" Palateus	59 "
3. "	Brochis Splendens	58 "
JUNIOR	3 Entries	,. Judge. Jim London
1. S. Boore	Brochis Splendens	78 Points
2. "	Corydorus Melanistus	72 "
3. "	Corydorus Aneus	53 "

RAFFLE RESULTS

1. -Les Bell	Combined Heater and Thermostat
2. Susan Byatt	Bucket
3. Ian Archer	Tetra Tabi Min
4. Bill Middleton	Net
Basil Tubbs	Aquasafe

9th June

The second round of the Inter club between E.L.A.P.A., Witham and Braintree,..and-.S.L.A.-;D.A.S. Southend members attending were -

Dave Cheswright
Dave North
Terry Blackmore
Bob Smith
Tony Moles
Dave Burges
Ron Davis

-.

QUIZ RESULTS

Southend	35
E.L.A.P.A.	30½
Witham & Braintree	30½

RAFFLE-

Mrs. Mott	Pump
Dennis Hart	Party Seven
Norman Feltwell : . .	Thermometer
Mrs. Waller	Plant
Norman Fetwell	Fish food . . -
Frank Chapman	Plant . .
Frank Chapman	Plant

S.L.A.D.A.S. topped the quiz results. once more, but as the results of the Table Show show a little disappointing to say the least.

- 12

-

INTER-CLUB TABLE SHOW RESULTS

Class DC Rift Valley Cichlids 18 Entries Judge - K. Nutt

1. D. Hart	Witham/Braintree	Hap. ovatus	81 Points
2. D. Hart	" "	Cyprichromis nigrippinis	79 "
3. B. Smith	S.L.A.D.A.S.	Pseudo. Auratus	78 "
4. D. Hart	Witham/Braintree	Hap. moorii	77½ "

POINTS FOR THIS CLASS

1. Witham/Braintree	not recorded
2. S.L.A.D.A.S.	- 290½
3. E.L.A.P.A.	.. 275½

CLASS G (CATFISH)

21 Entries

Judge - T. Woolley

1. D. Hart	Witham/Braintree	Farlowella Acus	83 Points
2. A. Farrugia	" "	Two Spot Pink Bagrid	79 "
3. B. Smith	S.L.A.D.A.S.	Pimalodella Species	78 "
4. D. Hart	Witham/Braintree	Farlowella Acus	77½ "

POINTS FOR THIS CLASS :-

1. Witham/Braintree	- 316½
2. S.L.A.D.A.S.	- 270
3. E.L.A.P.A.	.•; 254

CLASS C (CHARACINS)

29 Entries

Judge - K. Cocker

1. D. Cheswright	S.L.A.D.A.S.	Red Eyed Tetra	82 Points
2. T. Moles	S.L.A.D.A.S.	Astyanax Rosciaturma	78 "
3. R. Davis	S.L.A.D.A.S.	Copper Tetra	73 "
4. S. Brown	E.L.A.P.A.	Wan. Beckfordi	72 "

POINTS FOR THIS CLASS :-

1.	S.L.A.D.A.S.	-	303
2.	WITHAM/BRAINTREE	-	283
3.	E.L.A.P.A.	-	275

CLASS O-S (CULTIVATED LIVEBEARERS)

26 Entries Judge - T. Wooley

1. R. Newman	Witham/Braintree	Red- Swordtail	71 Points
2. A. Chapman	E.L.A.P.A.	Gold Molly	70 "
3. B. Smith	S.L.A.D.A.S.	Green Swordtail	68½ "
4. A. Chapman	E.L.A.P.A.	Gold Molly	68 "

POINTS FOR THIS CLASS :-

1. E.L.A.P.A.	=	272
2. WITHAM/BRAINTREE	=	269
3. S.L.A.D.A.S.	=	267½

CLASS W. (COLDWATER)

12 Entries Judge -K. Nutt

1. R. Davis	S.L.A.D.A.S.	Koi	77 Points
2. R. Thoday	Witham/Braintree	Notropis Lutrensis	76 "
3. R. Thoday	" "	Bmtterling	75½ "
4. S. Brown	E.L.A.P.A.	Bitterling	74 "

POINTS FOR THIS CLASS :-

1. WITHAM/BRAINTREE	=	284½
2. E.L.A.P.A.	=	278
3 S.L.A.D.A.S	=	77 (only 1 fish in Class)

CLASS JK (RASBORA, DANIO, W.C.M.M.)

12 Entries Judge - K. Cocker

1. R. Thoday	Witham/Braintree	Ras. baliensis	76½ Points
2. R. Thoday	" "	Ras. M,aculata	76 "
3. R. Thoday	" "	Hemmi. linni	75 "
4. S. Brown	E.L.A.P.A.	Danio Devario	71½ "

POINTS FOR THIS GLASS :-

1. Witham/Braintree	=	298½
2. E.L.A.P.A.	»	276½
3. S.L.A.D.A.S.	=	208 (only 3 in Class)

TOTAL POINTS (SECOND LEG INTER-CLUB)

WITHAM/RAINTREE	=	1766
E.L.A.P.A.	=	1631½-
S.L.A.D.A.S.	=	1416

TOTAL POINTS (AFTER 2 LEGS OF INTER-CLUB)

WITHAM/BRAINTREE	=	3558
E.L.A.P.A.	=	3348½
S.L.A.D.A.S.	=	3099½

14th June

Unfortunately tonight F.B.A.S. slide Show did not arrive in time. So a members forum was initiated. Three groups were formed and members discussed all aspects of fish keeping.
Attendance 29.

RAFFLE

- | | |
|-------------------|---------------|
| 1. Bill Middleton | Soup and Bowl |
| 2. Roy Crow | Soup and Bowl |
| 3. Dave Burges | Thermometer. |
| 4. Neil Levers | Shoe Brushes |

TABLE SHOW RESULTS.....

CLASS Z - Plants

SENIORS

6 Entries Judge - D. Cheswright

- | | | |
|-------------|---------|-----------|
| 1. R. Davis | Cacomba | 73 Points |
| 2. R. Davis | Vallis | 70 " |
| 3. R. Davis | Vallis | 66 |
| 4. R. Davis | Vallis | 65 " |

JUNIOR

4 Entries

Judge - D. Cheswright

- | | | |
|---------------|------------------|-----------|
| 1. T. Gilbey | Willow Moss | 76 Points |
| 2.. T. Gilbey | Varigated Rush | 73 " |
| 3. S. Boore | Azola | 64 " |
| 4. S. Gilbey | Floating Lettuce | 44 " |

CLASS Dz - AOS Cichlids

SENIOR

8 Entries

Judge T. Moles

- | | | |
|---------------|-------------|-----------|
| 1. D. Burgess | Brown Acara | 70 Points |
| 2. J. Wimbush | Angel | 67 " |
| 3. R. Crow | Angel | 64 |
| 4. N. Levers | Firemouth | 61 " |

JUNIOR

1 Entry

Judge — T. Moles

- | | | |
|-------------------|--------------------------------|-----------|
| 1, P. Rashbrook ; | Psuedotroplus trophius | 76 points |
|-------------------|--------------------------------|-----------|

1st July

Bernard Meech of Whitham and Braintree -A.S. gave us a talk on how he went about building and setting up his recently built fish shed. Many of the members were on holiday, hence the low attendance.

The talk was very interesting, and you never really know all the pitfalls in building a fish shed until you try it yourself.

Attendance .28

RAFFLE

1. Wally Hadkiss	Sweets	
2. Roy Crow	Filter	
3. Julian Wood	Net	
4. Terry Gilbey	Aquasafe	
5. 5 Neil Levere	Filter Wool	

TABLE SHOW RESULTS

Class No-t - Pairs Livebearers

SENIOR

1. J. Wimbush	2 Entries	Judge - Dave Cheswright	
2. R. Davis	Sailfin Mollies		74 points
	Red Swords		71 "

JUNIORS

1. S. Boore	5 Entries	Judge - Dave Cheswright	
2. T. Gilbey	Ameca Splendens		76 points
3. J. Wood	Guppies		70 "
4. T. Gilbey	<i>Ameca splendens</i>		69 "
	Red Swords		64 "

MEMBERS CHALLENGE - Results after 4th Showing

Judge - D. Durrant

S.L.A.D.A.S. OPEN SHOW RESULTS 3. 5. 1980

CLASS A a-b Club Furnished . 1 .Entry ...

1. S.L.A.D.A.S. 65 points

CLASS Ag Mini.Furnished 3 Entries

1. Mrs. S. Larkin	Reading	72 points
2. A. Furssedon	Walthamstow	71 "
3. 3. Furssedon	Walthamstow	67 "

CLASS Ak Aquascape 5 Entries

1. P. Mills	Walthamstow	705- points
2. C. Cheswright	S.L.A.D.A.S.	70 "
3. Lee Aston .	S.L.A.D.A.S.	66 "
4. J. Wood	S.L.A.D.A.S.	62 "

CLASS B 14 Entries

1. B. Sayers B.S.A.S.	Puckelli	86 points
2. R. Neale S.L.A.D.A.S.	B. Fasciatus	85 "
3. A. Ashurst Thanet' . .	B. Fasciatus	83 "
4. A. Ashurst Thanet	B. Schuberti	79 "

CLASS Ba 6 Entries

1. M.Howells..... ELAPA	B. Evereti	80 points
2. W. Hastings SELAS	B. Lateristriger	79 "
3. J. Edwards Thanet	B. Dorsalis	76 "
4. J. Ellingford Diss	B. Everreli	72 "

CLASS C 20 Entries

1. W. Hastings SELAS	P. Interruptus	82 points
2. Mrs.P.Edwards Thanet	N. Palmeri	80½ "
3. T. Moles.....-. SLADAS	A. Fasciatus M.	80 "
4. E.J.Jackman Hastings	C. Punctalus	79 "

CLASS Ca 21 Entries

1. B. Sayers B.S.A.S.	H. Ulreyi	86 points
2. J. Edwards Thanet	H. Ocellifer	75 "
3. R. Davis S.L.A.D.A.S.	H. Callistus	74½ "
4. T. Woolley Harringay	Bleeding Heart	74 :"

CLASS Cb 4 Entries

1. D. Winder E. Dulwich	N. Harrisoni:	73 points
2. C. Raggio Brighton	N. Beckfordi	71 "
3. C. Raggio Brighton	N. Margihatus	70 "
4. B. Sayer B.S.A.S.	N. Eques	69 "

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Class D

12 Entries

1. F. May	Reading	Blockhead	90½- points
2. F. May	Reading	C. Spilurum	90 "
3. W. Hastings	S.E.L.A.S.	C. Salvius	86½ "
4. A. Smithers	Ashford	C. Meeki	-85 "

Class Da

2 Entries

1. C. Finniss	Strood	Angel	75 points
2. Mrs. S;- Larkin	Reading	P. Altum	66 "

Class Db

14 Entries

1. S.Furssedenn	Walthamstow	A. Borelli	77 points
2. R. Thoday	Witham	A. Wickleri	75 "
3. W. Hastings	S.E.L.A.S.	A. Borelli	74½ "
4. D. Hart	Witham	A. Pertense	74 "

Class Dc

9 Entries

1. W. Hastings	SELAS	L. Tretacanthus	78 points ~
2. D. Hart	Witham	H. Quatus	77 "
3. G. Steptowe	Roinford	M. Exosperatus	76 "
4. Mrs. S. Larkin	Reading	L. Tretacanthus	75 "

Class E

5 Entries

1. D. & J. Wood	ELADA	C. Kingsleyae	86 points
2. E. Finniss	Strood	C. Oxyrhynchus	82½ "
3. C. Osbourne	SELAS	C. Ansor&ei	78½ "
4. R. Thoday	Witham	M. Kretseri	71- "

Class Ea

26 Entries

1. D. Winder	E. Dulwich	B. Splendens	74½ points
2. S.J. White	Brighton	"	72½ "
3. N. Johnson	ELAP	"	72
4. D. Winder	E. Dulwich	"	71½ "

Class Eb

15 Entries

1. P. Mills	Walthamstow	C. Chung	78 points •
2. G. Steptowe	Romford	T. Opaline	77 "
3. B. Bysouth	Ipswich	C. Labioso	76 "
4. " ,	"	"	75½

Class F

13 Entries

1. C, Reggio	Brighton	S. Bortonei	81 points —
2. S, .Reggio	"	A. Macrophthalnrus	77 "
3. S,J. White	"	C. Nigropinnis	76 "
4. G. Owen	Orpington	A. Lineatus	72½ "

Class G

18 Entries

1. J. Payne	S.E.L.A.S.	H. Litterale	84 points
2. R. Thoday	Witham	O. Flexilis	82
3. B. Hadland	Hastings,	B. Amorus	82
4. T. Woolley	Harringey	Octocinclus	81

Class H

28 Entries

1. J. Adams	Romford	C. Leopardus	80 points
2. W. Hastings	SELAS	C. Nanus	79½
3. J. Adams	Romford	C. Leopardus	79
4. D. & J. Wood	ELAPA	B. Splendens	78½

Class J

22 Entries

1. C. Raggio	Brighton	R. Paucisquamis	86 points
2. D. Winder	E. Dulwich	R. Pauciperforata	81
3. D. Winder	E. Dulwich	R. Vaterfloris	80
4. Mrs. P. Edwards	Thanet	R. Pauciperforata	79

Class K

15 Entries

1. A. Ashurst	Thanet	D. Malabaincus	73 points
2. R. Davis	SLADAS	B. Rerio	72
3. M. Powell	E/Dulwich	D. Frankeri	70
4. W. Hastings	SELAS	B. Rerio	69½

Class L

14 Entries

1. R. Thoday	Witham	L. Taeniatius	78 points
2. "	Witham	C. Taenia	76
3. " . " . " . "	Witham	A. Anguillanis	73
4. Dave Winder	E. Dulaich	A. myersi	72½

Class M

13 Entries

1. J. London	SLADAS	L. Lanbuca	85 points
2. Dave Winder	E. Dulwich	S. Hoeveni	76
3. "	"	L. Erythrurus	75
4. D. Cheswright	SLADAS	B. Geayi	74½

Class N B-M

17 Entries

1. Mrs. F. Penny	SLADAS	L. Fuelleborim	79 points
2. T. Waller	ELAPA	B. Odessa	78
3. D. Hart	Witham	A. Pertense	77
4. E. Byatt	SLADAS	A. Australe	76

Class N 0-T

11 Entries

1. C. Finnis	Strood	B. Rhabdophora	80 points
2. G. Carpenter	Medway	"	77
3. D. Cheswright	SLADAS	P.C. Reliculatus	75
4. A. Meech	Witham	P. Perugiae	71½

Class O

1. P. Holding	Walthamstow	Guppy	21 Entries	80	points
2. Mr.& Mrs.M.Smith	Brighton	"		78	"
3. P. Holding	Walthamstow	"		77½	"
4. Mrs. S.Larkin	Reading	"		77	"

Class P

1. C. Finnis	Strood	Female Guppy	9 Entries	72	points
2. "	"	"		71½	"
3. "	"	"		71	"
4. "	"	"		69	"

Class Q.

1. C. Pinnis	Strood	X Helleri	8 Entries	75	points
2. "	"	"		74½	"
3. E.J. Jackman	Hastings	"		72½	"
4. C. Pinnis	Strood	"		71	"

Class R

1. P. Mills	Walthamstow	Platy	20 Entries	82	points
2. J. Edwards	Thanet	X Maculatus		77	"
3. C. Finnis	Strood	Platy		76	"
4. "	"	"		74½	"

Class S

1. D. & J. Wood	ELAPA	Liberty Molly	13 Entries	77	points
2. "	"	Gold Sailfin Molly		75	"
3. "	"	"		73	"
4. D. Sindle	Reading	Molly		72½	".....

Class T

1. J. Edwards	Thanet	P. Versicolor	28 Entries	81	points
2. F. Holding	Walthamstow	H. Bimaculata		79	"
3. D. Cheswright	SLADAS	X. Captivus		77½	"
4. G. Carpenter	Medway	H. Bimaculata		77	"

Class U

1. Mrs. S. Brown	ELAPA	Common Goldfish	10 Entries	73	points
2. T. Woolley	Harringey	Shubunkin		70	" -
3. Paul Mills	Walthamstow	Goldfish		69	"
4. "	"	"		66	"

Class V

1. M. Traynor	Ashford	Twin Tail	9 Entries	71	points
2. Mrs. S. Larkin	Reading	"		68	"
3. M. Traynor	Ashford	"		66	"
4. L. Green	Ashford	pearlscale		65	"

Class W

		14 Entries	
1. G. Owen	Orpington	U. Pygmaea	77 points
2. B. Meech :-	Witham	P. Phoxinus	76 "
3. G. Owen	Orpington.	N. Lutrensis.:	75 "
4. G. Owen	"	W. Lutrensis	74 "
5.			

Class Wa

		4 Entries	
1. Mrs. P. Perry	SLADAS	Ogan Koi	73 points
2. Mrs. S. Brown-	ELAPA	Shusui Koi	72 "
3. Mrs. F. Perry	SLADAS	"	68 "
4. Mrs. S. Brown	ELAPA	Ogan Koi	67 "

Class X B-M

		15 Entries	
1. Mrs. D. Edwards	Thanet	N. Palmeri	78 points
2. A. Ashurst •	"	C. Aneus	76½ "
3. M. & J. Falch	Hastings	C. Paleatus	76 "
4. L. Faulks	SLADAS	Corydoras	75½ "

Class X 0-S

		- 4 Entries	
1. C. Finnis ..	Strood	V. Platy	83 points
2. T. Waller	- ELAPA	Green Swords	78 "
3. F.J. Holding	Walthamstow	Red Swords	71 " ::
4. B. Bysouth	Ipswich	Sailfin Mollies	60 "

Class XT

		19 Entries :	
1. D. Cheswright	SLADAS	P. Intermedia	78 Points.
2. G. Carpenter	Medway	X. Captivus	75 "
3. "	"	B. Rhabdophora	74- "
4. J. Edwards .	Thanet	P. Versicolor	73½ "

Class V

		1 Entry	
1. G. Steptowe	Romford	A, Melanopus	85 Points

Class Z

		8 Entries	
1. - J. Edwards	Thanet	E. Densa	75 points
2. P. Mills	Walthamstow	N. Microdon	74 "
3. "	"	"	73 "
4. " .- ...	"	Hornwort	72 ".....

Class Za

		10 Entries .	
1. D. Durrant	SLADAS	Vallis	77 pointws
2. D. Cheswright	"	Crypt	76 "
3. "	" ;	"	74
4. C. Cheswright ,	"	"	73 "

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B-My

Class BMy- 17 Entries

1. Lee Aston	SLADAS	Cardinal	80 Points
2. S. Boore ,	"	C. Melaustus	79½ "
3. A. Brown	ELAPA	Bleeding Heart	79 "
4. Lee Aston .	SLADAS	Black Neon	78 "
Class 0 - Ty		7 Entries	
1. Miss S.Carpenter	Medway	B. Rhaphosclophora	77 points
2. A. Waller .	ELAPA	H. Bimaculata	76 "
3. S. Boore	SLADAS	A. Splendens	74 "
4. B. Bysouth	Ipswich	Swordtail	66 "
Class U - Wy		6 Entries	
1. S. Boore	SLADAS	Moor	69 points
2. C. Brown	ELAPA	Goldfish	68 "
3. "	"	Bitterling	67 "
4. A. Waller	"	Bristol Shubunkin	66 "

Highest Pointed Exhibitor

1st	C. Finnis ' 40 Points
2nd	P. Mills 25 "
3rd	W. Hasting. 18 "

Club Championship

1st	Walthamstow 52 Points
2nd	E.L.A.P.A. 44 "
3rd	Thanet 43 "

Highest Pointed SLADAS member

1st	D. 'Cheswright	18 Points
2nd	T. Moles	10 "
3rd	S. Boore	9 "
	Lee Aston	9 "

Best Junior	Miss S. Carpenter - Medway -	B. Rhabdophora
Best Characin-	W. Hastings	SELAS
Best Catfish	J. Payne	"
Best Ljvebearer	J. Edward	Thanet
Best Coldwater	G. Owen	Orpington
Best Fish	B Sayers	B.S.A.S.
Best Pair	Mrs. F. Perry	SLADAS
Best Breeder	D. Cheswright	"
		P. Intermedia

SPECIALIST SOCIETIES

The members listed below can put you in touch with., their Specialist Groups. So please contact them if you are interested;:

Jim London....	Koi
Derek Durrent	Catfish
Tony Moles	Killifish
Chris Cheswright	Killifish
Howard Preston	Livebearers
Dave Cheswright	B.A.S.S., Livebearers
Karen Turner "	Livebearers
Terry Blackmore,.	.Livebearers
Eric Byatt	Killifish (Secretary S.E.Essex Group)
Bert Farrow	Killifish ...:

Anybody else who has joined one of these groups please let me know r :.and I will add your name. ..to the list.

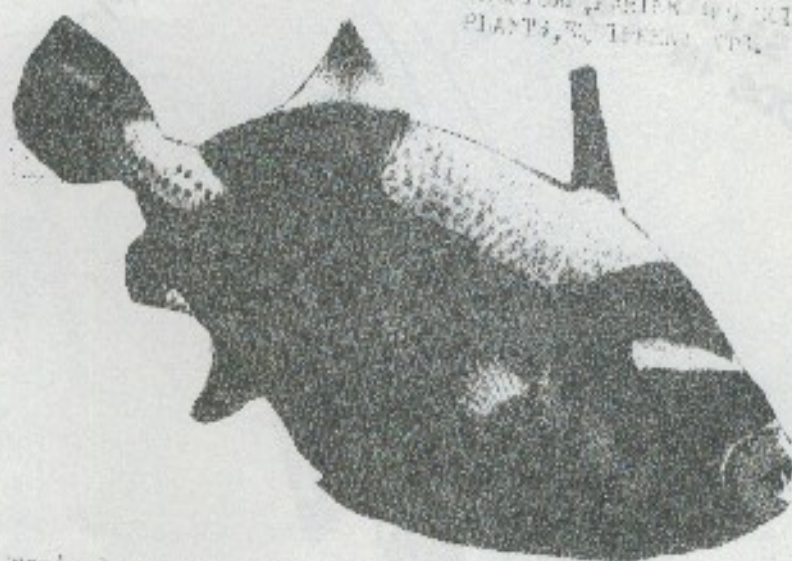
I happened to see a- copyof the Pet Store Trader'^ournal, 'May,1980, a short time ago. A new product, called Dependapool. has been perfected by Lotus Garden Products Limited. It is a powder.- You dig out your pond to any shape you require, sprinkle in a layerof the powder, cover it with a smooth layer of topsoil and then fill it with water. This sounds unbelievable, but a jelly-like membrane is formed which acts "as a strong and reliable pool : liner". The result is a natural-looking pond. No mention is made ofthe effect of tree roots, nor of children prodding the pond with sticks, nor how or whether such a pond can be cleaned out without damaging the membrane.

You need about 15kg per square metre;and 25kg bags cost £6 approx.

Also in the same Journal mention is made of a Fish disease symposium . held in Leicestershire and attended by Veterinary surgeons,: fish scientists, and the Aquatic trade. Dick Mills, F.B.A.S. Bulletin Editor was there representing the Societies, and I understand he presented a paper. The papers and discussions were recorded and are to be-published for the Veterinary-profession.

Dave Cheswright.:!.....

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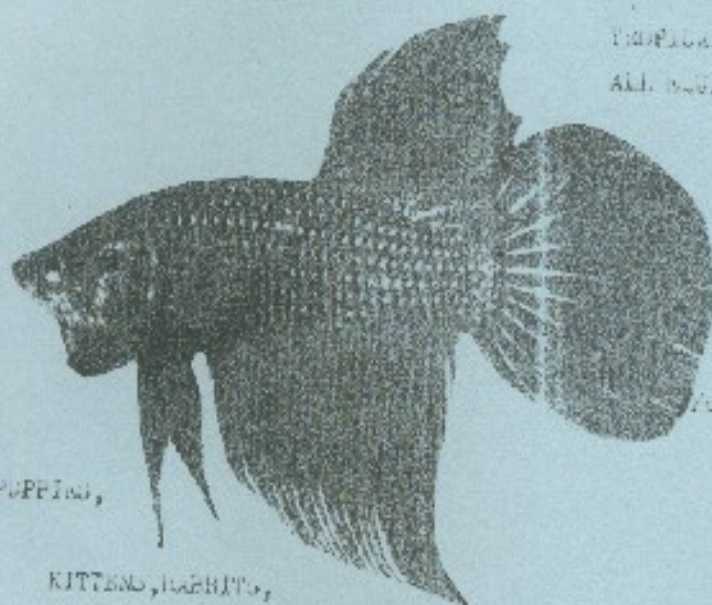
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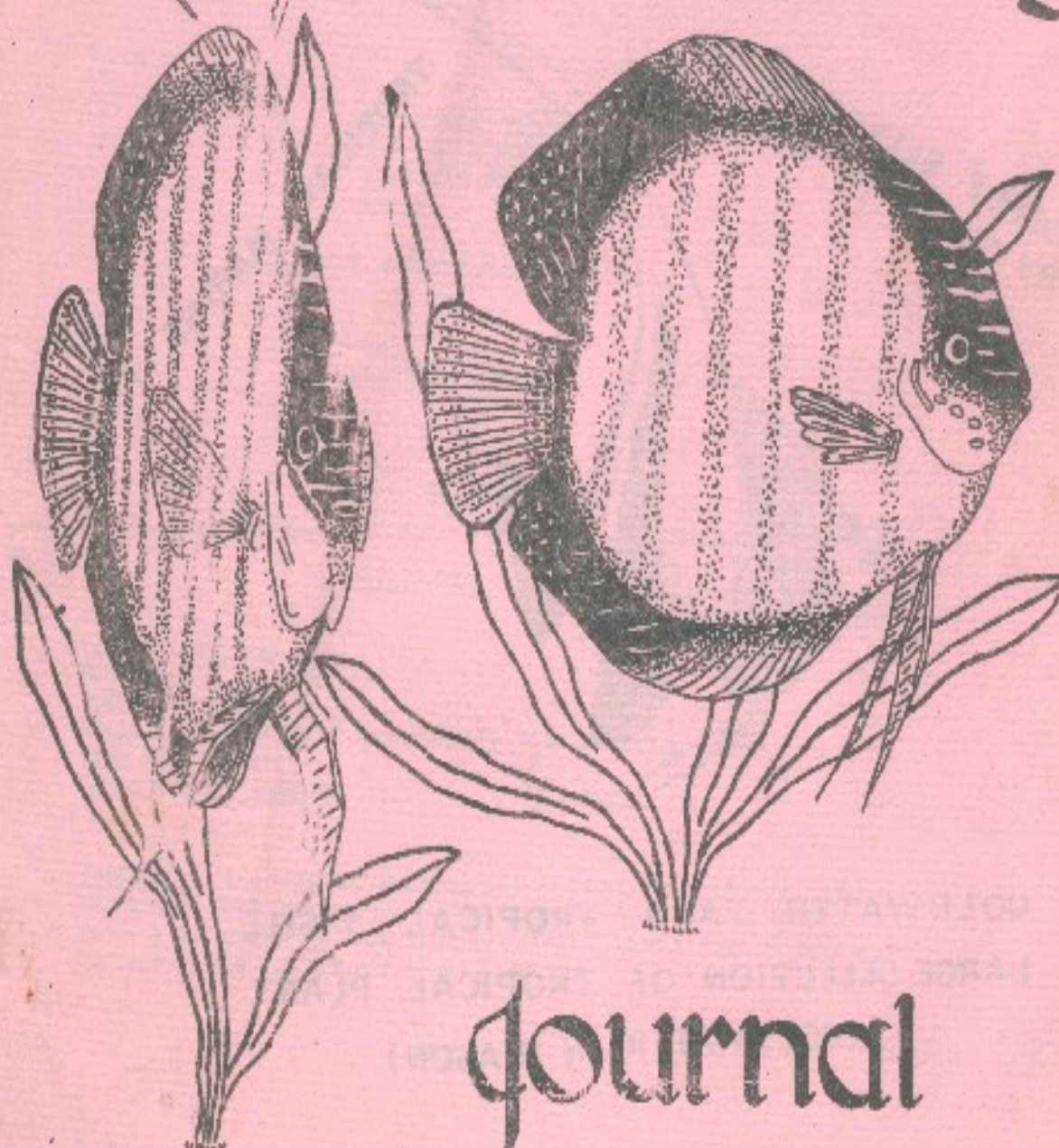
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82
Southend, Leigh,
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Journal

SOUTHEND.. LEIGH AND DISTRICT AQUARIST SOCIETY
(Founded 1935 or before)

Meetings are held on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of every month; the meeting commences at 8.30 p.m.
Venue :-

**ST. ANDREWS HALL,
ELECTRIC AVENUE,
WESTCLIFF-ON-SEA,
ESSEX.**
(Entrance in South View Drive)

**BI-MONTHLY JOURNAL
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OPEN SHOW SECRETARY

JIM LONDON (AS ABOVE)

—

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Having reached the end of the current committee's year in office, I would like to thank those who have made it possible for me to produce the magazine over the last year. I would like to see more club members writing articles. It would certainly make things easier. .Everyone keeps fish (Club members that is) . A few lines on how you keep any particular fish is quite ample. Or even better on how you breed them.

I would particularly like to thank Terry Waller who has been a really great help to our Club during the last few years. He has this year written for our magazine and spent a great number of his Tuesdays judging Table Shows. Terry is not a member of our Club which makes my thanks even greater. Many thanks Terry for your help.

This month's magazine has been taken over in the main .by Peter Capon, who was in the past our Editor. If Peter had not stepped in with his articles there would have been nothing to fill the mag.` Dave Cheswright splits Peter`s articles with a report on his visit to various Open Shows.

It looks very much as though one edition of the magazine has been lost this year. Unfortunately this was as I spent a month in Hospital, and missed several meetings. Also having been filling in as Table Show Secretary has also reduced my available time which will make this edition a little late.

By the time you get this edition the new committee will be in full swing trying to organise next year's programme. Any suggestions you can give them will help make their jobs easier.

Editor.

TERRY BLACKMORE

PRESIDENTS NOTES

Dave Cheswright

We are again at the end of another Year, Our Annual General Meeting, 2nd December, 1960, requiring a new Committee to be appointed. There have been several changes during the Year, due to resignations, caused by work, etc. On the whole, however,, we. had a strong Committee with 'almost all really putting' their backs into the work, without, complaining. Some Committee meetings have lasted until very late, but I think we have been able to run the Society smoothly...

During the last year I think we have had a more active Membership generally, with a few increasing the numbers of tanks kept and one or two more with Fish-houses or rooms. More Members have been breeding fishes, which, in itself, created more interest for the other Members. A few more have been to the odd Open Show 'during the Year.

Table Shows have been reasonably supported, but. even now, we have the occasional class with only two or three entries. With 30/40 Members coming to each Meeting I would have expected more entries, particularly when the more "common" "classes come up. I think a little bit more thought should be given, particularly by Junior Members, to catching their fishes and benching them more carefully. Many entries arrive on the table with damage to their fins/bodies, in dirty tanks and sometimes with dirty water. Juniors should have plenty of time to get their entries ready before coming to Meetings. The benching of Senior entries has been better, even though most do not have much time to prepare after getting home from work. Do not forget, you Junior Members, that when you are 16 you have to enter the Senior classes where competition is a bit keener. If you have, acquired the method of benching whilst a Junior you should be able to continue to win cards in the Senior Section.

We have discussed the late start at Meetings which is basically caused by us not having the main -hall until 8.30 p.m. (Sometimes later due to the earlier -users not leaving on time). The Committee is taking steps to make sure we get into the Hall on time in future. We are trying the Table Shows in the back room, which we usually do in the Winter -anyway, in the hopes that the main Meeting can start, whilst late-comers are still benching.

OPEN SHOW - SATURDAY, 2nd MAY. 1981. St.Clements Hall, Leigh-on-Sea.

SHOW SECRETARY - JIM LONDON..

TILAPIA - SALVATION OF THE STARVING

Millions of people on our earth are starving. In some areas- sufficient food bulk is produced but it is of the wrong type.

Cereal crops, such as rice, are grown in many of the underdeveloped countries; these provide carbohydrates but only a small proportion of the protein that is essential for the health of the human organism. Whilst carbohydrates fill and satisfy the pangs of hunger, millions of people are destined to die of malnutrition because of insufficient protein in their diet.

A number of ingenious processes have been devised to extract protein from such sources as grass, leaves and even algae. But, setting up the factories to win protein from these sources is expensive and the economies of the underdeveloped countries will not stretch to such long term investments. Factories take time to commission and malnutrition cannot wait.

In addition, the protein produced by these processes is usually in the form of pastes or powders which have to be added to the normal diet and there are problems of getting people to accept these new and alien foods.

The problem which confronts various world organisations, such as the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations, is to provide this dietary deficiency in an acceptable form. The rearing of fish as a food that supplies protein would appear to be the ideal solution to the problem. Fish have the advantages that they grow at a faster rate than cattle or swine, and can be fed on materials that neither humans nor animals will accept. Cattle and pigs have the added disadvantage that each is a forbidden food to various religious groups; fish are acceptable to the majority of races. The fish that would appear to be the best suited to pond culture by the unskilled, which grow at a reasonably fast rate, and put up with relatively poor conditions are the members of the genus *Tilapia*.

The species that has received the most attention in this respect is *Tilapia mossambica*. This *Tilapia*, which grow to 14 inches, is not particularly colourful. Generally it is silver and green and yellowish with several darker patches on the sides. At breeding time the male's colour intensifies to an overall brown or black with a red marking on the edge of the dorsal fin at the same time the lips thicken.

The breeding procedure of *Tilapia Mossambica* is remarkable. The female fish takes care of the eggs and young by holding them in her mouth.

The courtship of *Tilapia* can be a violent affair, the couples pair off and often lock jaws in the usual cichlid manner. The pair then proceed to wrestle first one fish getting the advantage then the other. This process of "kissing" and wrestling can often last for several hours; presumably it is nature's method of ensuring that only the fittest specimens engage in the procreation of the species. For some reason not all pairs engage in the wrestling particularly under aquarium conditions.

The courtship over, the pair then--proceed, to., select a spawning site. They clear an area in the mud or gravel by scooping up mouthfuls and depositing the spoils some distance from the nest site. Water plants may be dug up, presumably as they offer hiding places for enemies. The whole of the nest site, is swept clean by fanning movements of the pectoral fins, and the larger debris is carried away in the mouth.

The normally placid *Tilapia mossambica* when preparing to spawn, will drive other fishes away from the nest site. Other species of *Tilapia* tend to be more aggressive than *T. mossambica*.

During the courtship and nest building a small pink tube may be seen protruding from the anal opening of each of the pair. These tubes are only to be seen at breeding times; at other times they are retracted into the body. Their purpose is to deposit the eggs and milt onto the selected portion of the nest,

When the female is satisfied that the nest site is sufficiently clean she will make a few passes over it as though checking her positioning for spawning. Then she will slowly pass over the pit with her spawning tube almost in contact with the floor and lay a dozen or so eggs. She then turns around, picks up the eggs in her mouth and stands aside whilst the male sprays his milt on the floor of the nest. The female then picks up the milt in order to fertilize the eggs. This procedure is then repeated time and time again until the female has up to several hundred eggs in her mouth. Not one egg is left, all are diligently searched out and gently picked up.

In the wild the male and female now go their own separate ways, but if the spawning has taken place in an aquarium the male should be removed as it is possible that he will molest his spouse whilst she is carrying their young.

The female carries the eggs in her mouth until they hatch in about ten days. The fry, when free swimming, seek refuge in the mouth for another week or so. Whilst she is carrying the eggs the female does not appear to eat at all, although she may feed on micro-organisms that are always present in the water. Towards the end of the brooding period the female becomes noticeably thinner, her flanks in particular are emaciated which makes her appear to have an over large head; this effect is exaggerated by her mouth being distended with its load of eggs.

Every so often the mother moves the eggs around in her mouth with a chewing action, this is to cleanse them of any dirt or harmful organisms and to ensure that all have a plentiful supply of water containing life giving oxygen. The fate of eggs that fungus is unsure, whether the female swallows them or ejects them would seem to be in doubt.

The eggs when they hatch bear little resemblance to their parents; they simply look like little splinters of glass with two little black dots, the eyes, at one end. At the middle of the splinter is a small ball shaped protrusion -the egg sack. This egg sack is in reality the yolk of the egg and it

supplies the youngster with food for the next few days until it is able to forage for itself.

As soon as the egg sack is absorbed the young fry must seek food; it swims out of its mother's mouth and learns to find its own food. Tilapia fry feed mainly on algae, which are microscopic plants; in the aquarium they will readily eat brine shrimp (*Artemia salina*) as a first food.

The fry remain close to their mother for the first few days and should danger threaten in, say, the form of a predatory fish they seek refuge in their mother's mouth. Jerking movements of the female's fins and sounds emitted by her warn the fry of danger whereupon they all crowd into her mouth.

The fry grow rapidly given plenty of food and in a few days it becomes difficult for them all to cram themselves into their mother's mouth. The sight of a well grown brood of fry attempting to enter her mouth resembles humans trying to board an already overcrowded commuter train.

A week after the eggs hatch the female ejects any fry in her mouth and chases the brood away, presumably to disperse them as widely as possible and therefore give them a greater chance of survival. If any refuse to flee she is just as likely to eat them as her first real meal since the eggs were laid.

Tilapia will consume almost anything. They are basically vegetarians and in the wild feed mainly on algae and soft water plants. In the aquarium these fishes will eat all the normal foods. When kept in pools they can be conditioned to much of the wastes of human agriculture and husbandry. They will readily consume rice husks and dust. As much food as they can clean up should be put into their pond each day. Excess food will rot and foul the water providing them with less than ideal conditions. They can, however, tolerate fouler conditions than the majority of other fishes raised as food in warmer climates. Naturally they grow faster and breed more readily in reasonable conditions.

Tilapia are happy in fresh or brackish water and can withstand rough treatment from the unskilled labour that is available for fish culture in the underdeveloped countries. They have the added advantage that when hungry they will eat mosquito larvae that are present in almost every body of water in the tropics and so help eradicate mosquito borne diseases such as malaria. Tilapia grow faster, if, when the pools are stocked the sexes are segregated. Great skill is needed to sex young Tilapia and in consequence work is being carried out at various fishery research establishments to perfect hybrid strains that when mated to other strains give rise to all male progeny. Other hybridization experiments are being carried out to perfect strains that are faster growing.

T. Mossambica is the member of the Tilapia genus that has received the most attention as a food fish but there are other members of the genus that are occasionally used. Not all members of the genus are mouth-brooding. These lay their eggs in the nest and then tend them in the typical cichlid manner. One member of the genus, *T. galilaeae*, is reputed to be the fish mentioned in the miracle of the fishes and loaves.

Tilapia fed the multitude in Biblical times. Perhaps Tilapia can again feed the multitude in the twentieth century.

P.F. Capon.

Many thanks to Mr.Capon for this article. I found it most interesting. I.E.Miell

OPEN SHOW REPORTS

Dave Cheswright

There have been a number of Shows since my last report, so a brief general report will have to suffice.

Shows attended and entered at were :-

Hastings and St. Leonards A.S.	17th August
Bethnal Green A.S.	7th September
Harlow A.S.	14th September
Tonbridge A.S.	21st September
Alexandra Palace	3/5 th October
Walthamstow A.S.	2nd November

Chris or I and Audrey went to all the above. Eric Byat and Bert Farrow were at Harlow and Eric was at Walthamstow, Tony Cooper went to Harlow. Eric and Bert put up a stand at Harlow for the British Killiefish Association, S.E. Essex Area and Eric and Chris did the same at Walthamstow. I assisted at Alexandra Palace on the Southern Livebearers' Aquatic Group stand on the last day. I was abroad in Germany for the Harlow Show; so my entries were benched by Audrey and Chris.

Places were won at all the above Shows, including one or more firsts at all except the Ali Pali, where only a 3rd and 4th were won. I think that all the Members who went won some card or other so no-one came away empty-handed. If you do not enter these Shows you never know if you have fishes that can win a card. It would be nice in 1981 if more members could support some other Shows; the more support you give to others the more they will give to our own Show. I did not note down the number of entries in every one of the above Shows, but it is a fact that our own Show in May, 1980, attracted one of the bigger entry numbers for this Year., Let's try to top this in 1981.

The weather was kind to us at all the above Shows. At Harlow members spent the time during judging, having been in the local Hostelry, picking Elder-berries for my wine-making, for which many thanks!!! At Hastings it did decide to rain a bit to say the least and we had to run from Pub to Fish and Chip Restaurant to avoid a drowning.

I forgot to note the Best in Show winners at all the above, but the ones I did were :-

Harlow - Loach - Bernard Meech of Witham & Braintree A.S.
Alexandra Palace - Peter Moye - Barb.
Walthamstow - Barb, Bill Hastings, S.E. London A.S.

GENESIS OF AN AQUIJARIST.

Most aquarium test books state that one type or-another of cultivated fish have been responsible for introducing the most people, to the aquarium hobby. Usually such fishes as guppies, Siamese fighting fish, or one of the varieties of gold-fish are named as being responsible. If asked, I would have named shubunkins as being responsible for my, catching:the aquarium "bug", but thinking back I am not so sure whether this is true in my case.

As far as I can remember my first introduction to our fascinating hobby of niaintaining aquatie life in capitivity was brought about by.my father.'One summer's.afternoon, I must have been:about five at the time, he announced that; we were.going fishing, and asked my mother to spare us a piece of net curtaining to make a net. Equipped with the net on the end of a garden cane, and two jam jars complete with string handles, we set off .for a brook on the outskirts of Epping. where he had been told that.there were fishes just for the: catching.

At the brook an expert sweep of the net yielded a couple .of black wriggling"Fishes". My father declared these to be tadpoles, a fact that I could not understand for had he not said that we were going "fishing"? I wanted to try my hand at this fishing game, but he said that I was too young and would have to wait a few years, (it is funny he said exactly the same about my train-set).

We brought the tadpoles home grossly overcrowded in the two jars; our catch had swollen to several dozen before we made our way home for tea.. At home the tadpoles were unceremoniously tipped into an old galvanised bath. Yes, an old galvanised bath! I had no idea at that time that galvanising was dangerous to aquatic life. Luckily at one time the bath had been used for boiling washing in and had a layer of lime scale on the inside. If the tadpoles had died I might have given up there and then and so never discovered the joys of the aquarium hobby. Incidentally, this same bath is still in use today but now it is used to culture daphnia and it still holds water, (they do not make them like they used to do they?..).

My success in keeping these tadpoles prompted me to examine the ponds near to my home. As at the time we lived opposite Epping Common and only a short distance from the forest there were plenty of ponds for me to investigate. In fact the nearest pond was only just across the road and I remember one summer making almost daily trips catching one or two newts (*Triturus vulgaris*) by hand at a time and rushing back home to place them in my zinc bath. It is funny but no matter how many newts I put in the bath there never seemed to be more than half a dozen in residence at any one time, they simply climbed out as fast as I put them in! This same pond yielded every spring copious quantities of frog spawn, and so I was able to watch the development of the tadpoles from eggs to miniature frogs, all in my one galvanised bath.

On one occasion whilst we were fishing in this pond one of my friends

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became fed up-..iiwith the tedious hand catching of newts decided jn a little target practice with some old tin cans. Unfortunately he was a poor shot, for one of ths tins hit me on the top of my head, making a very messy incision. My family have always maintained that this is the cause of my "being "nuts" about fishes!

Perhaps a year after my first fishing trip I discovered a pond that contained real fishes; they were only stickel-backs (*Gasterosteus aculeatus*) but to me they were wonderful creatures. It proved difficult to catch . the stickel-backs by hand so I tried real fishing with a bent pin and a live worm. I caught very few stickel-backs by this method but did learn how stubborn a newt can be once it has partly swallowed a worm; they would rather ba dragged cut of the water than let go of their meal!

A neighbour then gave me an old goldfish bowl and I was thus able to view the various comings and goings of my aquatic pets. This bowl was my pride and joy, although now-a-days I would only regard a goldfish bowl as suitable for testing the power of a sledge hammer. The bowl only lasted one season for it was left outside, full of water, during the winter, and of course it soon broke when it froze solid,

During the time that I had been stocking my galvanised bath we had acquired a cat which promptly set to and hooked out as many fish as it could find. Strangely she only caught stickle-backs ignoring the newts and the tadpoles, presumably the silver colour of the fishes attracted her attention. The cat's fishing days were short for one day she fell into a large water tank used for collecting rain-water; the shock of total immersion in the water cured her of her angling antics for ever. She never attempted to catch a single fish for the rest of her eight lives.

It is strange, but I never did use the large water tank for fishes. I cant think why, for the tank was crawling with gnat larvae, but of course in those days I thought of mosquito larvae as "fishes" and not as fishes foud. At that time it was the practise to collect rain-water in butts for the washing of hair and woollens. I often wonder whether it was the softness of the water or the infusion of boiled gnats made it so ideal for this purpose. The collected water was boiled, gnats and all, and the dead larvae strained off before use.

When I was about eight my father decided on a move to Wickfcrd in Essex, a fact that did not meet with my approval, not at least at first. As soon as I had settled down at Wickford I found the facilities for hunting pond life were even better than at Epping. In addition to the usual ponds there was also the River Crouch, which contained many interesting creatures and had the added attraction that only a few miles down stream at Battlesbridge the river was tidal.

The nearest pond to my new home was again only a few hundred yards away. This pond was hidden away at the bottom of a field which was little more than.....

a patch of waste ground. The pond was almost completely hidden from the road by thickets of blackthorn and clumps of willows. The pond was crammed full of newts, and insect and crustacean life. It was in this pond that I first observed the complete life cycle of the common newt, from the egg through the gilled larvae to the adult amphibian. It was in this same pool that I caught my first Great Crested Newt (*Triturus palustris*) and I can well remember the mixture of joy and fear that I experienced as I pulled in this magnificent creature after having caught it on a bent pin.

Alas! this pond has now been filled in to make way for the drive-way of a new school. The children attending this school will never know the wonders that this willow ringed pond held. The field in front of this pool also housed a number of grass snakes, (*Natrix natrix*), and it was always my ambition to catch and keep one. The only time that my friends and I were able to get close enough to one to catch it all we were able to do was to stare at it as it lay at our feet until it slowly slithered away. Snakes were also to be found on the sides of the cutting through which the Wickford to Burnham railway runs, but in this case they were adders... One friend of mine who was braver, or rather, more foolhardy than I would persist in prodding the adders with a stick until enraged they sank their fangs into it; he would then toss both adder and stick, onto the railway line.

There was another pond a short distance away in a derelict farm yard. This pond was overgrown with Canadian Pondweed (*Elodea canadensis*) and the few and far between clear patches were coloured a rusty red with masses of daphnia, which I soon discovered were readily accepted by my newt larvae at home in my galvanised bath. Amongst the weeds in this pond I first realised how cruel nature can be when I saw my first Water Scorpions (*Nepa cinerea*) attacking small newts and sucking them dry. I am afraid that I must admit to returning cruelty with cruelty and that I tore the predators in half every time I found one.

This pond has also been filled in now; the job was started by people who thought it a suitable place for disposing of cats and dogs and any old junk, and finished by the local council workmen. Why, oh, why! must people defile our heritage of beautiful ponds and streams with all their garbage!

My first fishing attempt in the Crouch resulted in my catching creatures that I took to be eels, they were beautifully coloured in a yellow and brown pattern. I kept a number of these creatures at home and found them interesting until I discovered, I am not sure how after all this time, that they were not eels at all. These fascinating "fishes" that swam with graceful undulating motions and rested by sticking to the sides of their jar were leaches, and as soon as this was realised my parents insisted they be put down the drain.

At a later date I was able to catch real eels - *Anguilla anguilla* - in the river; they were only an inch or so long and unfortunately did not seem to last long in my zinc bath. Where the river flowed through Wickford it contained stickle-backs and Stone Loaches (*Noemacheilus barbatulus*) as well as eels. I.....

remember one time one of my friend's efforts to run along the shallow river bed in pursuit of a fleeing loach. The fish had all the advantages for it was able to negotiate the various obstacles on the river bed whilst my friend repeatedly stumbled and fell flat on his face in about a foot of water. The fish was eventually caught when my friend stumbled yet again and was lucky enough to grab the fish as he fell. The loach did not live long in captivity. I hardly think a small boy falling on it could have done it much good!

We found that the best method of catching both loaches and stickle-backs was to dredge the river with an old sack. The procedure was for one of us to hold the sack in a narrow part of the river whilst the others waded towards him stirring up the bottom and frightening the fishes from their hiding places.

The stickle-backs from the fresh-water section of the river were rather dowdy even in breeding season but downstream where the tidal influences were felt the neap tides formed pools of brackish water beyond the dykes and in these the males in their full breeding regalia were truly beautiful. They seem after all these years to have been even more brightly coloured than our tropical neon tetras, but of course it is difficult to remember colours accurately after many years.

These brackish pools also contained an occasional shrimp that was so delicately made and so transparent that it appeared to be made of glass; quite possibly this was the glass-shrimp, although I cannot be sure. ;

The river itself near Battlebridge contained a variety of flat-fish, but we were never able to catch any of these. At low tide it was possible to catch a type of crabs on the mud flats. These crabs lived in what appeared to be burrows in the river bank, but whether they were made by the crabs, another animal, or by the action of the waves we were never able to ascertain.

By this time my galvanised bath had become grossly over-crowded, so I began to construct ponds in the garden. Strictly speaking I should say that we constructed the ponds, for I had the good sense to get help from my friends whenever there was any hard work to be done. The ponds were very amateurish as we were quite unable to persuade our parents to supply us with sand and cement. We made two ponds which were simply holes dug in the clay and fed by a net-work of drainage ditches from all parts of the garden. The ponds held water quite well and only began to dry out in mid-summer. When the level of the pools began to drop they were replenished by carrying innumerable buckets of water down the garden.

One pool was reserved for the crabs from the Crouch at Battlesbridge, but unfortunately these only seemed to last a week or so in fresh-water, although this was probably quite an achievement in itself. The other pool contained an assortment of newts, stickle-backs, loaches and eels. The stickle-backs obliged by breeding in their pool and I spent many happy hours flat on my face with, my nose almost touching the water watching the males building their nests and caring for their young. It was a marvellous sight when the young from all the nests joined into one school of silver splinters.

at the surface of the water.

Very few of these fry ever reached maturity for the pool began to dry out and no matter how much water I poured in it did not seem to improve matters. I saved as many fish as I could and put them into my galvanised bath but the majority died of overcrowding.

I also was interested in the local reptiles but experienced less success in keeping them mainly I think through not supplying the right foods. Since we usually found both lizards (*Lacerta vivipera*) and slow-worms (*Anguis fragilis*) in the vicinity of ant hills we assumed that ants formed a major part of the diet. We spent many uncomfortable hours digging up ants nests and carrying them home for our reptiles. The lizards and slow-worms were kept in biscuit tins with the front cut out and replaced with a sheet of glass. I became disheartened when the number of creatures escaping exceeded the number being caught.

At the age of twelve my father bought me a second-hand aquarium from a local aquarist, (I think he belonged to SLADAS) which we stocked with shubunkins; hence I became infected with fishkeeping "bug". Eventually I took to keeping tropicals, and my interest in catching wild fishes slowly faded, but that is another story altogether.....

Peter Capon

CLUB REPORT

15th July 1980.

Auction night tonight, there is not much you can really write on an Auction, but. there was the usual spread of fish and fish keeping bits and peices on auction. -

Table Show Results,

Class V - Twin tailed Goldfish 2 Entries Judge: D. Durrant

1st	D. Holliday	Twintail	61 Points
2nd	D. Holliday	Twintail	54 "

Class Vy - Twin tailed Goldfish (Junior) 1 Entry Judge; D-Durrant

1st	S. Boore	moor	56 points
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Class W -A.O.S. Cddwater 8 Entries Judge: T. Blackmore

1 st	Mrs. Perry	Koi	69 Points
2 nd	Mrs. Perry-	Koi	67½
3 rd	Mrs. Perry	Koi	67
4 th	D. Holliday	Bitterling	65½

15th July 1960 (Continued)

Class Wy - A.O.S. Goldwater (Junior) 1 Entry Judge; T. Blackmore
1st S. Score Bitterlin 62 points

Class U - Singletail Goldfish 5 Entries Judge; D. Durrant
Bittlering

1st	R. Crow	Goldfish	75 Points
2nd	R. Crow	Goldfish	73
3rd	R. Davis,.	Goldfish	70 "
4th .	T. Cooper	Shubunkin	65 . "

Class UySingle tail Goldfish (junior) 2 Entries Judge: D. Durrant
1st R. Pearman Goldfish 62 Points
2nd S. Boore Bristol Shubunkin 55

Trophies :-

S.L.A.D.A.S. 4 - Best Coldwater R. Crow 75 Points
Saunders Cup - Best Coldwater R.U R.Crow 73 "

August 5th - No Meeting

19th August

I missed this meeting being in Hospital, so I'm afraid information is a bit sparse.

Table Show Results Class J – Rasboras 3 Entries judge T. Waller

1st	A. Farrow	Harlequin	75 points
2nd	L. Somner	P. Elegans	72
3rd	L. Somner	P. Elegans	68

Class Jy - Rasboras (Junior) 3 Entries judge T. Waller
1st P. Rashbrook P. Elegans 69 points
2nd T. Gilbey Red tailed Rasbora 65½
3rd T. Gilbey Scissor .Tail 57

Class Minitanks (2) 3 entries judge T. Waller
1st L. Somner 75 points
2nd C. Cheswright 71 points
3rd A. Farrow 69

Class Minitank (2) (Junior)
1st R. Pearman 66 points
2nd R. Pearman 63

Class – Ponds 6 Entries Judges J . London & R. Stanford

1st	R. Davis	Pond	76 Points
2nd	D. Cheswright	"	65
3rd	R. Neale	"	56
4th	D. Holliday	"	54

Trophy :- Pond Trophy - Best Pond R. Davis

7th October

Members Forum the club split into 3 or 4 groups and discussed all aspects of fish keeping. I took over from Chris Cheswright to cover the table show secretary's job, as Chris was due back at College. Tony Moles elected as Table Show Secretary having resigned due to personal problems.

Raffle Results (I think these were actually the previous meetings)".

1st	D. Holliday	Flask.
2 nd	I. Archer	Box
3 rd	Paul Lloyd	Show it all
4 th	Chris Cheswright	Mug

Table Show Results

Class Xo-t - Breeders Livebearers 4 Entries Judge; A. Cooper

1st	R. Davis	Guppies	79 Points
2nd	R. Davis	Guppies	78
3rd	D. Cheswright	Caudo	77
4th	K. Turner	P. Versicolor	69

Class Xo-ty - Breeders Livebearers (Junior) 5 .Entries Judge; A. Cooper

1st	T. Gilbey	Swords	82 Points
2nd	T. Gilbey	Swords	80
3rd	S. Boore	X. Eiseni	75
4th	T. Gilbey	Guppies	72

Class Members Challenge (4) 21 Entries Judge; D. Durrant

1st	D. Cheswright	Killie	75 Points
2nd .	L..Somner	Filiment Barb	72
3rd .	D..Burgess	Pearl Gourami	71½
4th :	P. Boore	Nigger Barb	71

Class Members Challenge (4) (Junior) 3 Entries.

Judge D. Durnat

1st- ...S.-Boore	Black Spotted Catfish	75 Points
2nd P. Rashbrook	P. Trophius	70 "
3rd R. Pearman	L. Siamensis	65½

Trophy:- Members Challenge. Members Challenge D. Cheswright
Ed Nichol Cup Members Challenge (Junior] S. Boore

Overall Points:- D. Cheswright 300 Points
S. Boore 299 "

2nd September

The programme shows that Mr. E. Haywood was due to give a talk. Still not having recovered' from my op. I can't give any details.

Table Show Results

Class T. A.O.S.. Livebearers	7 Entries	Judge;- J. London
1st D. Cheswright	A. Cultratus	73 Points.
2nd D. Cheswright	Two Spot	70
3rd D. Cheswright	P.C. Reticulatus	68
4th K. Turner	Mosquito	66

Class Ty - A.O.S. Livebearers (Junior):- I Entry' Judge; T. London
1st S. Boore P. Melanogastor 60 Points

I have a note that female G-uppies should have been included tonight. 'Oh-well, nevermind. You can show them--next year.- •

5th September East London Interclub cancelled, date now 4th December

16th September

Several meetings were changed around this time, and I think this was on Not being available I couldn't tell you with what. -

Table Show Results

Class Xb-m - Breeders Egglayers	7 Entries	Judge; D. Gheswright
1st D. Burges	Angels	76 Point
2nd B... Crow-:	Kribensis	75½
3rd E.' Byatt	R. Milesi	71
4th D. Burges	Angels	70 "
Class Xb-my Breeders Egglayers (Junior) .	2 Entries	Judge: D. Cheswright
1st J. Wood	Kribensis	70 Points
2nd J. Wood	Kribensis	65 ' "

Class Xu-w - Breeders Coldwater Nil Entries

Class Xu-wy - Breeders Coldwater (Junior} Nil Entries

21st October

Dave .Chsswright gave a talk on f»od Cultures,. Talks always -create interest as new members often do not realise exactly how many possible variations there are in a fishes diet.

Raffle results

1st	R.Crow	Cultures
2nd	?	Cultures
3rd	J.Haggar	Magnifier
4th	"	Net
5th	A.Cooper	Pen-Set
6th	K.Dyke	Plant
7th	L.Somner	ii

Table Show Results

Class - Home Furnished 12 Entries Jridge:- D. Cheswright

1st	A. Copper	Home Furnished	160 Points
2 nd	R. Davis	Home Furnished	154 "
3 rd	A. Farrow	Home Furnished	150 "
4 th	L. Somner	Home Furnished	149 "

Class S -Mollies 2. entries Judge T. Waller

1st	J. Wimbush	Sailfin Molly	64½ points
2 nd	L. Bell	Black Molly	56½

Clacs Sy_ - Mollies (Junicr) No Entries

Class - Minitanks (3) 3 Entries Judge: T. Waller

1st	L. Somner	Minitank	70- Points
2nd	R..Davis	Minitank	68
3 rd	R..Davis	Minitank	64 "

Class - Minitanks (3) Junicr 4 Entries Judge;. T. Waller

1 st	S. Boore	Minitanks	49 Points
2 nd	S. Boore	Minitanks	39
3 rd	R. Pearman	Minitanks	38 "
4 th	R. Pearman	Minitanks	3

Trophies :	Giles Cup	Home Furnish	A. Cooper
	Brook Shield I -	Best Minitank	L. Farrow
	Brook Shield II -	Best Minitank	T. Moles

4th November

On Show were Killifish Slides shown by Eric Byatt and Bert Farrow. As table show was in the 'side' room, being involved as acting Table Show Secretary I missed this event. I hear though it was very enjoyable.,

Raffle Results

1.	D. Burges	Flowers
2.	P» Capon	Plant
3.	J. Wood	Dish
4.	A. Waller	Cookset

Table Show results

Class K - Danio and W.C.M.M.,		10 Entries	Judge ; T. Waller
1 st	R. Neale	Zebra Danio	?
2 nd	A. Cooper	W.C.M.M	?
3 rd	R. Davis	?	?
4 th	R. Davis	?	?

Class.Ky;	Danio_ & W.G.M.M. (Junior)	? Entries	Judge T. Waller
1st T.	Gilbey Pearl Danio		
2nd	9 9		
3rd	9 9		
4th	9 9		
Class F -	Killiefish	Entries	
1st E.	Byatt A.	Splendidums	
2nd A.	Farrow A.	Amieti	
3rd E.	Byatt R.	Rollifi	
4th A.	Farrow R.	Liberiensis	

Class Fy - Killiefish (Junior), No Entries Judge; T. Waller

Trophy- Len Willis Cup - Best Killiefish - E. Byatt.

The results are a bit incomplete, as the table show results were removed from the table. Would members kindly remember that the result sheets are the only record we have of the Table Show. If anyone has these results sheets would they please return them to the Table Show Secretary.

18th November

Auction night again. Plenty of items on sale. These auctions really help to bolster club funds as the club receive 25 per cent of the proceeds.. So the more you bring and buy the better off the club becomes. And the better are the entertainments we are able to present.

Raffle Results

1 st	P. Boore	Flowers
2 nd	R. Crow	Bag
3 rd	S. Press	Christmas Cards
4 th	R. Gledhill	Fancy Candle
5 th	P. Boore	Bucket

Table Show Results

Class - Members Best Fish 12 Entries Judge T. Waller

1 st	P. Boore	Khuli Loach	79 Points
2 nd	A. Farrow	R. Heteromorpha	78½
3 rd	E. Byatt	A. Splendidum	78
4 th	A. Cooper	Moonlight Gourami	76½

.Class - Members Best Fish (Junior) 6 Entries Judge; T. Waller

1 st	S. Boore :	Black Spotted Catfish	86 Points
2 nd	T. Gilbey	Flying Fox	76
3 rd	P. Rashbrook	B. Lecontei	70
4 th	M. Cane	Scissor Tail	68

Trophies:-

Jones Cup 1 :- Members Best Fish Senior - P. Boore :

S.L.A.D.A.S. 5-- Members Best Fish Junior - S. Boore

Open Show Trophy

Dave Cheswright has been the only member to give me any results towards the trophy. Dave's results are -

1979	Nov.11th	Walthamstow	17 points
1980	Mar. 9 th	Brighton	6 points
	22 nd	Croydon	18 points
	May 3 rd	Southend	19 points
	18 th	Medway	9 points
Aug	17 th	Hastings	10 points
Sept	7 th	Bethnal Green	19 points
	14 th	Harlow	9 points
	21 st	Tonbridge	16 points
Oct	3/5 th	Ali Pali	7 points

Don't forget any member showing fish at Open Shows can give the details to the Table Show secre for inclusion towards the Trophy

Every week we receive thousands of letters well at least hundred, how about ten. Will you settle for one a year.

The following was received from **Dick Mills** who judged our best article competition and I thought you might like to read it for yourselves.

Dear Terry

. Many thanks for the copy of the S.L.A.D.A.S. Journal, and for your letters. I am enclosing a copy of my book for you to present to the winner of the competition at your next Society meeting. I had a chat to Dave Cheswright at Saturday's Assembly but I had already made up my mind to write to you direct so that you could have a (Little bit of fun with the presentation. I would be pleased if the following could be read out at your meeting.

"After much deliberation I have finally arrived at my decision as to the Best Article in the Journal of S.L.A. D.A.S..in a true professional manner will announce the results in a reverse order - not that anyone else is going to get a prize but because three articles really stood out in 1980's issues.

3rd Place Dave Cheswright His series on livebearers are most informative, regular, and fishy. However, I feel that there is a danger of him taking the hobby too seriously unless someone else contributes some articles so that he can have a rest.

2nd Place Terry Blackmore & Terry Waller. Their article on the newly discovered 'Blind Cave Platy' was a masterpiece of scientific research and immaculately presented even though it was a classic collection of old cobbles. I must admit that I was two-thirds of the way through it before I fell in; a very clever piece of writing.

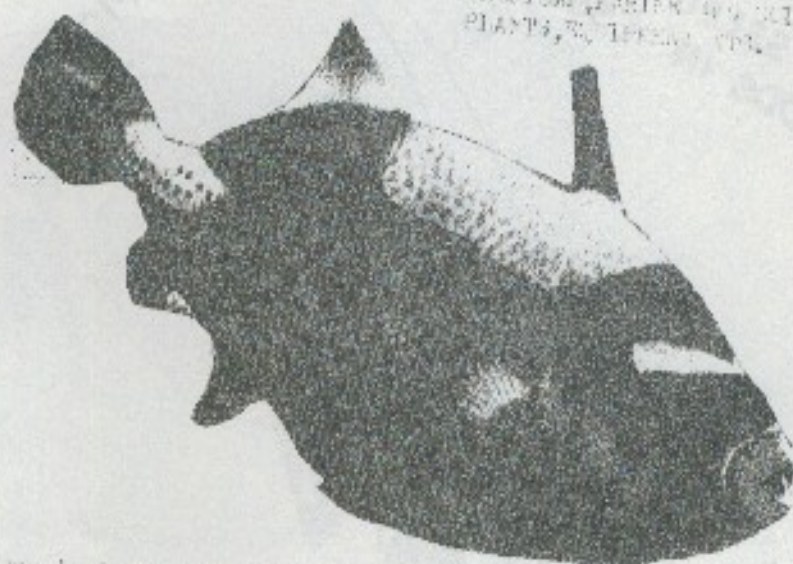
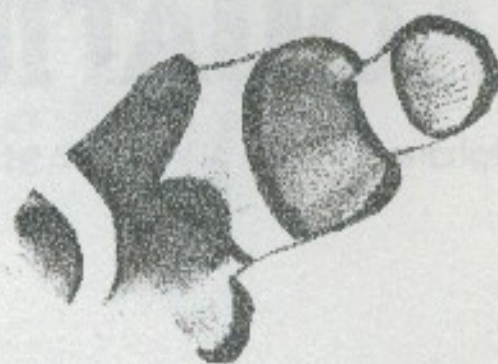
1st Place (subject to Appeal and are-Certification of the author) Terry Waller for his outrageous-description of Breeding Snakeheads. Although right from the start it was an obvious spoof, there was an underlying suspicion that some over-keen aquarist somewhere just might get stuck into these fish on such a grand scale. Not only that, the Joke got better the further it went, (cries of 'the further the better from the back of the Hall - Margaret Waller ejected). As a part time scribe myself, it is with the greatest pleasure that I enclose the award. I look forward to Terry's forthcoming; Autobiography "Round Wapping Reach with a Mars Bar and a length of wet String" to be serialised in 3½ parts in the left-handed Cod Batters Gazette.

Very Best Wishes for Christmas and the New Year to all S.L.A.D.A.S. Members and Contributors.

Dick Mills

Many thanks to Dick for Judging our competition and for adding a copy of his book to the prize

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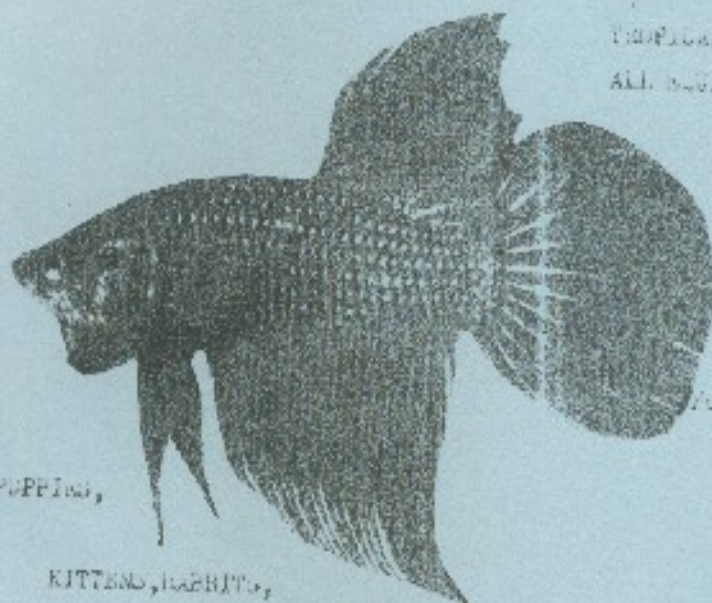
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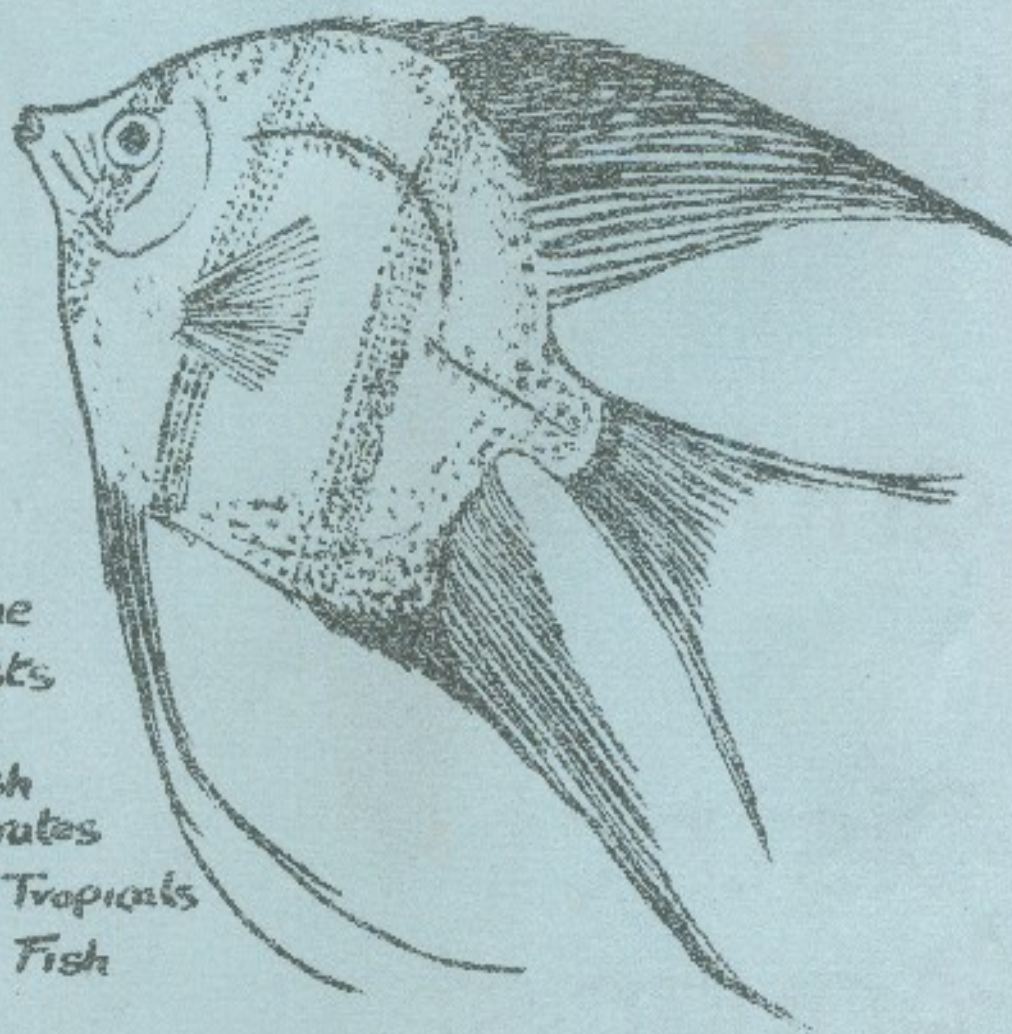
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